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No. 35,768



President Suharto delivering his state-of-the-nation address to the Indonesian Parliament in Jakarta on Sunday.

Suharto Touts a Homegrown Solution Speaking of 'IMF-Plus,' He Keeps Prospect of Currency Peg Alive

By Seth Mydans New York Times Service

JAKARTA — President Suharto said Sunday that the austerity measures demanded by the International Moneiary Fund had not yet borne fruit and that Indonesia must find its own formula for economic recovery, something he said might be called "IMF-plus."

In a major address, he thanked the international community for its help during the country's economic crisis and said Indonesia would continue to work with the IMF, which be called an "authoritative and highly effective international institution.

But he said he was still considering pegging the exchange rate of the rupiah to the dollar, a drastic measure that is strongly opposed by the IMF, the United States and the European Union.

"In the end, our fate rests in our own Mondale's visit was intended to convey

His remarks came in a five-yearly state-of-the-nation address on the first day of a parliamentary session that is set to hand him a seventh presidential term next week, Mr. Suharto is 76 and has led the country for 32 years.

The well-orchestrated session demonstrated his continued political dominance despite Indonesia's economic turmoil, which has been marked by inflation, unemployment and an out-

break of riots over rising prices.

But in a signal that political orchestration is not enough, the speech also came on the eve of the arrival here Monday of former Vice President Walter Mondale, who is bringing a message of concern from President Bill Clinton over Mr. Suharto's handling of the crisis.

Officials in Washington said Mr.

to last month in return for a \$43 billion economic rescue package organized by Mr. Suharto insisted Sunday that he was moving ahead with the austerity measures, but that the key to recovery On top of that, Mr. Schroeder's candidacy would cast the was to find a way to strengthen the Indonesian currency, the rupiah, which

has fallen by more than 70 percent in value since last summer. "Unless this is achieved, I don't see any possible improvement in the near future," Mr. Suharto said.

a sense of urgency over implementing

austerity measures Mr. Suhario agreed

One way tu strengthen the currency, he said, would be to set up what is known as a curreccy board, which would fix an artificially strong value for the rupiah, backed by Indonesia's foreign-currency reserves. Most economists say Indonesia's economy is too fragile to withstand the fiscal pressures of such a step.

'I must remain careful in cautiously cootemplating the possible introduction of the currency board," Mr. Suharto said, adding, "Whatever measures we take, we need the support of the IMF."

An IMF delegation is reviewing Indonesia's compliance with an economic restructuring plan that Mr. Suharto signed under international pressure Jan. 15. The agency will decide in mid-March whether Indonesia's level of implementation warrants continued release of support funding.

Officials in Washington say Mr. Mondale's visit is in part a result of what they called Mr. Suharto's foot-dragging in implementing these measures.
In his speech, Mr. Suharto insisted,

"We have carried out parts of the program, while other paris will follow

So far, he said, Indonesia has toughened its annual budget, as required; has moved to ease investment

See SCHAEUBLE, Page 5

Vote Lifts Kohl Challenger

Schroeder to Lead Social Democrats' National Bid

By Alan Cowell ha Buk Tiran Series

HANNOVER, Germany — Surfing a wave of voier ac-claim that could carry him to the chancellor's office in Bonn, Gerhard Schroeder, the state premier of Lower Saxony. triumphed in closely watched state elections Sunday, sealing his hid to challenge Helmut Kohl for Europe's most powerful political position in a national hallot later this year,

According to first, computerized estimates by German polling institutes, Mr. Schroeder's Social Democrats increased their share of the vote by about 4 percentage points over the 44-3 percent they recorded in the last state assembly elections, in 1994, a postwar record for the party in Lower Saxony that reversed a string of Social Democrat reversals in state elections elsewhere.

"This is a result I could not have hoped for in my wildest dreams," said Mr. Schroeder, 53. "The Kohi era is over." With the Lower Saxony vote acting as a kind of primary, the outcome sealed Mr. Schroeder's claim on his party's ticket for the September national vote, just one day before the Social Democrats decide formally in Bonn whom to field against Chancellor Kohl: Mr. Schroeder or the purty leader,

Tomorrow, Gerhard Schroeder will be our candidate for chancellor," said Franz Muentefering, the Social Democrats'

party manager in Bonn, Both Mr. Schroeder and Mr. Lufontaine told reporters that they had spoken by telephone shortly after the results began to emerge and had agreed on Mr. Schroeder's candidacy.

"I'm delighted. We didn't expect such a great win," Mr. Lafoniaine said, "I will nominate Gethard Schroeder as our chancellor candidate tomorrow,

German commentators said the developments Sunday had changed and energized the basic dynamics of German politics for the first time in years, giving the Social Democrats not just their strongest candidate for chancellor since 1982 — when Mr. Kohl took power - but also an unfamiliar whiff of

September vote firmly into the mainstream of European efforts for social and economic renewal, pitting a centrist and reformminded Social Democrat contender who likes to be compared

See GERMANY, Page 5



Premier Gerhard Schroeder and his wife, Doris, voting Sunday in Hannover in Lower Saxony elections.

Shining the Light On a Dark Horse

By John Schmid

FRANKFURT - Even after the Social Democrats on Sunday ended a year of suspense over who would be their candidate to challeoge Chancellor Helmut Kohl in September, not all the names have been thrown into the ring

Germany's next leader neight be neither Gerhard Schroeder, the standard-bearer for the left who won the election in Lower Saxony, nor Mr. Kohl himself, according to polls and political observers.

Under a scenario that receives significant attention in Bonn these days, the next chancellor, who will lead Europe's most powerful nation into the next millennium, could be Wolfgang

Mr. Schaeuble, the popular 55-year-old whip of Mr. Kohl's parliamentary faction, has the experience and grit to unite disparate ideologies into an unconventional "grand coali-tion" that weds Germany's biggest conservative and leftist parties, party officials say. They consider Mr. Schaeuble a

viable candidate, albeit an unofficial one. 'Another candidate lurks behind Kohl," said Dieter Walz, director of political and election research at the Emnid polling institute. The shadow candidacy of Mr. Schaeuble is means to

lomatic opoons."

improve the odds for Mr. Kohl's conservative Christian Demo-



Wolfgang Schaeuble is gaining favor with pundits.

Amid Religious Tensions, **India Wraps Up Elections**

By John F. Burns

COIMBATORE, India - India's general election came to a tense end over the weekend as voters in this southem textile city joined 150 million others in choosing between Sonia Gandhi's vision of a secular India and a rival vision of a country dominated politically by the culture and preferences of its 700 million Hindus.

When results begin flowing in Tuesday, India will know whether a sevenweek election campaign produced a return to government by the Congress (I) Party, whose frayed banner Mrs Gandhi carried, or a historic turn to the Hindu nationalists of the Bharatiya Janata Party. The Hindu party entered the campaign with a large lead in opinion polls, which eroded as the drive mounted by the Italian-born Mrs. Gandhi caught fire.

Some the way so Most forecasts are for a close result, probably tipped one way or the other by the voting Saturday — the third and decisive round in the staggered voting that began across the country two weeks ago. The system is India's solution to the huge organizational difficulties of running an election with 605 million voters, 5 million election officials and security personnel, 900,000 polling places, nearly 5,000 candidates and 543 Falls of the first of the first

parliamentary districts. The tensions that marked the election The state of the s reached their peak here in Coimbatore. 2,000 kilometers (1,250 miles) south of New Delhi on the edge of the vast southem plain that dominates the subcootinent Associated the state of the sta as it narrows to a meeting point between the Indian Ocean and the Arabian Sea. Two weeks ago, 62 people were killed by 17 bomb explosions that ripped through the city shortly before a rally scheduled by Lal Krishna Advani, the Bharatiya

Roberts with his small with his smal Janata Party's hard-line president.
Altogether, at least 150 people have been killed in election violence across the country. But the Coimbatore bornbings came to encapsulate what many Indians found most fearful about the campaign, since they were rooted in rivairies and suspicions between the majority Hindu population of India and its 120 million Muslims.

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Mrs. Gandhi and other opponents of the Hindu nationalists have warned that these tensions could revive on a broader

scale if the Bharatiya Janata Party wins.

In Coimbalore, a city of 1.5 million, voting that was deferred for a week because of the bombings went peacefully, with large cootingents of paramilitary police officers guarding polling places and cordoning off the old Fort district, where many of the city's 90,000

The police have arrested scores of Muslims since the blasts, coolending that a Muslim youth group, Al Umma,

See INDIA, Page 4

See SUHARTO, Page 13

Going to the Brink: Misgivings Plagued U.S. Plans to Attack Iraq

By Barton Gellman, Dana Priest and Bradley Graham

Washington Post Service WASHINGTON - At about the same hour on

Jan. 29, two encounters 4,000 miles apart gave voice to the Clinton administration's divided instincts on Iraq. On the riverfront campus of Fort McNair in

Washington, an annual audience with President Bill Clinton for the Joint Chiefs of Staff and regional military commanders took place in an

atmosphere of painful anxiety about the con-templated bombardment of Iraq.
"I don't think there's a member of the Joint

Chiefs who wants this to be the way it goes," a senior flag officer said afterward, describing the essence of the message being conveyed to the president that week. Details of the mission and the targets "weren't the issue," the officer said, eniphasizing the regional and global political risks. "It had to do with, 'Is this the right thing to

In Paris, where night had fallen oo a working

dinner at the Quai d'Orsay, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright had nearly finished recruiting her French counterpart for a public warning of an approaching military clash. As the last of the orange soufflé and Chambertin Clos de Beze wine. was cleared away, Foreign Minister Hubert Vedrine escorted Mrs. Albright before reporters and declared that "all options are open" if Iraq should fail to cooperate with United Nations weapons inspectors. Mrs. Albright added poin-tedly: "We have all but exhausted the real dip-

Brandishing the threat of violence - and hoping the threat would suffice - was the core of the government's classified "Pol-Mil Plan Iraq," a white loose-leaf binder with timelines for each stage of rhetorical escalation and military deployment. As the confrontation neared the brink last month, according to many participants, the misgivings of the president and his national security team grew in tandem with the intensity of

See IRAQ, Page 6

Case of Juvenile Graffiti Darkens Belarus's Image

By Jane Perlez New York Times Service

MINSK, Belarus - Gaunt and pale, with his prison-shaven head just beginning to sprout hair, Vadim Labkovich, 16, seemed barely able to believe the modest comfort of being back home.

After all the steel I've had around, I feel as though I am in heaven," he said, feeling the soft touch of a lounge chair and admiring the welcoming balloons and flowers in his mother's apartmeot.

In a case that has attracted close attention in Washington and Europe, Mr. Labkovich and a frieod, Alexei Shidlovsky, 18, were locked in a cage in a courtroom here last week with an attack dog prowling nearby and eight armed policemen on guard as a judge conducted their trial.

They were charged with something that would be dismissed as juvenile exuberance in most countries: spray-painting unflattering graffiti about their country's leader on statues of Lenin and Felix Dzherzhinsky, the founder of the KGB. But in authoritarian Belarus, their

action was treated as a serious criminal offense.

Belarus has become of increasing concern to the West as its leader, Alexander Lukashenko, who was democratically elected in 1994, has turned himself into a strongman. He has outlawed expressions of Belarussian national sentiment, even dissolving an elected Parliament, and has tried instead to rejoin a neo-Communist Belarus to

Mother Russia.' Last year, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, a group of 54 nations, including the United States, accused Belarus of constructing a system of totalitarian government. Belarus was suspended from the group's parliamentary assembly, and its observer status at the Council of Europe, where Russia is a member, was withdrawn.

The chairman of the security organization. Bronislaw Geremek, who is foreign minister of Poland, visited Minsk on Friday to open an office to monitor human rights in Belarus and to

See BELARUS, Page 6

AGENDA

Sweep in Kosovo Leaves 20 Dead

PRISTINA, Yugoslavia (AFP) - Serbian police cootinued a security sweep against Albanian militants in the troubled southern province of Kosovo that has left at least 20 dead, the Serbian Interior Ministry said Sunday.

Four policemen were killed and two were seriously wounded Saturday, the ministry said. Several ethnic Albanians were arrested.

The ministry attributed the killings to ethnic Albanian "terrorists," a term it uses for the separatist paramilitary group Kosovo Liberation Army. Kosovo has been ruled from Belgrade since 1989 but is peopled largely by Albanian-speakers.

Page 17. Crossword.. Page 8 Opinion .. Pages 7, 13. The Intermarket The IHT on-line www.iht.com

Clinton's 'Profound Rage'

Outward Calm Belies a Seething Conviction, Friends Say, That Prosecutor Is 'Dangerous'

By Bob Woodward and Peter Baker Washington Post Service WASHINGTON - The goal, Pres-

ident Bill Clintoo has said, is to show up for work each morning and focus oo the job. And so in the midst of the worst crisis of his career, he goes about his business with an air of public calm planning possible war one moment. touring disaster sites the next, even escaping to a ski resort over the weekend with the family.

But behind closed doors, io emotional moments of candor with confidants, Mr. Clinton is in a "profound rage" these days about the investigation into his relationship with Monica Lewinsky, according to associates. As unperturbed as he appears in poblic settings, they said, the president privately seethes that the independent counsel, Kenneth Starr, is "a very bad guy" and

After years of being scrutinized on so many fronts, from his Arkansas business deals to the death of his friend Vincent Foster and oow even to his sex life, Mr. Clinton has coocluded that Mr.

Starr is engaged in a moral crusade. The prosecutor and his staff, the president believes, are guilty of "prosec-utorial misconduct" for supposedly colluding with attorneys working for Paula Jones in her sexual harassment lawsuit, according to people who have spoken with Mr. Clinion. There is, said one friend, "a sense of victimization."

It is "not necessarily rational," said

"There's a great deal of anger," said one Clinton friend who bas spoken with him on the topic. "But it's more than anger. There's genuine concern, even if it weren't him in the crosshairs, that Ken Starr represents a danger in American

That Mr. Clinton is personally furious at Mr. Starr may be predictable, but it is a side of him he has labored to hide from the public and even from much of

See CLINTON, Page 3

On a Jewish Hilltop, a Test of Israel's Soul

By Serge Schmemann
New York Times Service

ATSIR, Israel — Three years ago, Adel Kaadan saw an ad in the paper for lots on this hilltop near his village. The view was spectacular, the infrastructure modern,

the school good and the price right.

So he came and asked for an application to join the cooperative. The clerk hemmed and hawed, and finally said no. No Arabs.

"It was a slap in the face," said Mr. Kaadan, nne of about a million Arabs who live in Israel proper and hold Israeli citizenship, ont of a total population of 5.8 million. "It was an earthquake for me. I work in a military hospital. They let me save their lives, but to live next to them. ac." but to live next to them, no."

So Mr. Kaadan sued, posing what Israel's chief justice described in February as one of the toughest decisions he has ever faced

On the surface, the case does not seem so wrenching. The community of Katsir is neither particularly religious oor nationalistic. Mr. Kaadan is hardly a radical or a revolutionary; he speaks fluent Hebrew, and many residents here know him from the hospital.

His quest, however, tonches the very heart of the unresolved conflict in Israel's claim to be both a democracy and a Jewish state.

The issue arises repeatedly in the disputes among Jews over religious versus civil rights, but it has never been fully tested on the fundamental question of a citizen's right to land.

This is one of the most difficult and complex judicial decisions that I have ever come across," the president of the Israeli Supreme Court, Aharon Barak, declared at a hearing Feh. 10, pleading with both sides to find a compromise and not to push for a ruling. He gave them until March 10.

We are not ready yet for this sort of judicial decision, which has unforeseen consequences," he said. "I suggest that you reach a compromise and avoid a judicial decision, since it is hard to know which way it will go."

Alexander Kedar, a specialist in property law at the Haifa University Law School, said: "Whatever way it will go, I think this is one of the most important cases we've had, and the court is aware of this. The court is definitely facing a very hard decision, especially since it's not clear what the public reaction will be to this extremely sensitive topic. It's really a question of whether Israel is more democratic or more Jewish."

The case also comes as many Jews in Israel and abroad fervently defend the right of Jews to settle in Arah neighborhoods in East Jerusalem and in the West Bank, though the legal issues are different. These instances have provoked much denunciation of Palestinian laws against selling land to Jews. They have been described as akin to Nazi Germany's "Nuremberg laws," which restricted the Jews' rights to property, among other things.

Dressed in his hospital whites, Mr. Kaadan chatted

cheerily in Hebrew while two daughters, 7 and 6, romped on the sunny hillside, and his wife sat in the car nursing a third, 3 months old. He hardly gave the alone an Arab revolutionary. He said that he had worked side by side with Jews for 23 years as a medical assistant at an Israeli hospital, where he had many Israeli friends, and that he had no problem with the idea of his daughters' attending Jewish schools.

He insisted that he was simply in search of a better quality of life. Arab communities like his



Adel Kaadan, an Arab Israeli barred from joining the Katsir cooperative, has sued, prompting an appeal from the high court for a compromise to avoid a judicial decision.

Gharhia, he said, lagged far behind Jewish towns in services and schools. "In Baka," he said, "there is oo infrastruc-

ture, no sewer lines. The schools are full of asbestos, the road to school is unpaved, the teachers are Mr. Kaadan's suit was

filed in September 1995 by the Association for Civil Rights in Israel. Lawyers with the association said that although there had been previous suits challenging land laws and practices, they had been narrow in scope. This is the first one challenging the right of a community to exclude a person from living there because he is an Arab.

Mr. Kaadan sued oot to hny property but to lease it. In Israel, 93 percent of the land is owned by the state or by one of two agencies, the Development Authority and the Jewish National Fund. They in

turn lease it to other agencies or developers. In many towns, like Katsir, land is leased to the Jewish Agency, an international, nongovernmental body set up in the 1920s to settle Jews from around the world in what is now Israel. The agency then sublets the land to various Jewish cooperatives, which offer loog-term leases to residents. Katsir, founded in 1982, is one of 600 to 700 such towns across Israel.

HE LAWYER handling Mr. Kaadan's suit, Dan Yakir, said the heart of the case was the fact that the Jewish Agency, under its own bylaws, is required to lease land only to Jews. The civil rights association has asked the Supreme Court to rule that it is illegal for the state to lease lands to an agency that discriminates in its use of the lands. The suit seeks a ruling that the state

lands in a discriminatory way. Among the reasons cited is the Israeli Declaration of Independence. which says the state must ensure "complete equality of social and political rights to all inhahitants irrespective of nationality, race or sex."

We're not against a village formed with a special character or lifestyle, like for meditatioo, or

vegetarians, or a kihhutz," Mr. Yakir said, "but Katsir is just a suburh. They all work in Hadera, and only sleep there. There's no reason to exclude Arabs

from living with Jews. Matty Bloch, a founding member of the Katsir cooperative and the town clerk, argued that Katsir was still in the process of forming an identity as a community and that it had enough problems already trying to integrate 700 Jewish families from different backgrounds — European, North African, Russian, Ethiopian, Middle Eastern — without introducing an Arab.

'All community life here is based on Jewish traditions, holidays, memorial days," Mr. Bloch said. "We go to the army together, we carry weapons because nur honses are close to the border. Maybe we can live together with Arabs one day, but for sure not in a very small community which has its own integration problems.

Mr. Kaadan has heard their concerns on this point. "Yes, they asked me, 'How will you celebrate Independence Day? What will you do on Yom Kippur?' "he said. "I said, 'On Independence Day, I'll do the same as I always do, have a nice holiday. And on Ynm Kippur' — when Judaism prescribes a strict fast — "I'll do like secular Jews. I'll eat at bome and oot oo the street.'

The argument that Katsir is not ready for integration is one that Mr. Yakir and Mr. Kedar do not accept. "We think the case is right in this jubilee year," said Mr. Yakir, referring to Israel's 50th anniversary. "It represents the unfulfilled promise of the declaration of independence. If it's not ripe oow, I don't think it will be ripe by the centennial."

As Mr. Kedar put it: "I must say that as a Jew in

Israel, I think that if a Jew somewhere else in the world was prohibited from huying state land, public land owned by the federal government, because they're Jews, I believe there would have been an outcry in Israel. I support the civil rights orgauizanon in meir appeal, The Si Dreme Court has to take a courageous step and become the Warren Court, and really transform this into a Brown vs. Board of Education." His reference was to the landmark 1954 decision

of the U.S. Supreme Court rejecting the hasic principle of segregation, "separate hut equal," in educatioo for black Americans.

U.S. Students Abroad Get Bargain Thrown In

By Robert D. Hershey Jr. New York Times Service

NEW YORK - Marie Claire Santos-Lim returned to Yale University this winter after a highly satisfying autumn semester in which she immersed herself in Spanish language and culture at the University of Seville.

"It's an amazing experience to study abroad," said the 21-year-old New York woman, who expects to graduate in May with a major in American stud-

Just as amazing — to her parents — was the discovery that sending their daughter on an adventure abroad was also a way to trim thousands of dollars from the cost of a semester of college.

With the average bill for private schools in the United States now more than \$20,000 a year — and costs elsewhere in the world much lower — a growing number of families are finding that an experience that once was largely restricted to the well-to-do is turning into something that the middle class can no longer afford to ignore.

The number of Americans studying abroad has jumped 84 percent over the last decade. And while economic globalization is the most frequently cited cause, "the financial consideration is significant," said Mary Anne Grant, executive director of the International Student Exchange Program in Wash-

"One of the things students say is, 'Can I afford this?" 's she said. "And I tell them, if your mition, room and board costs \$24,000 a year, you can probably find a program that costs \$10,000 less." The number of students seeking bar-

gain educations abroad has grown so quickly, in fact, that a backlash has been seen, both at American schools and at those in foreign countries.

The University of Pennsylvania, for example, now charges students going abroad the same amount they would pay on campus in Philadelphia. Some countries that heavily subsi-

dize higher education, including Britain, have taken to charging foreigners full price.

A decade or two ago, foreign study was generally an "elitist undertaking" aimed at acquiring a new language, said David Larsen, director of the Center for Education Abroad at Beaver College. The suburban Philadelphia school runs one of the United States' largest foreign-study programs and was a pioneer in translating foreign credits and grades for acceptance by U.S. institutions.

Now, though, the luxury has become so democratized, Mr. Larsen said, that many students going ahroad are from relatively inexpensive state universities. They find that it can cost even less to study in Toulouse, France—or possibly iil say, in Columbus, Onic

Indeed, increasing oumbers of smdents are looking beyond the traditional destinations of Britain, France and Spain, venturing to low-cost countries in Eastern Europe, Latin America, Africa and the Far East.

In most cases, students receive full credit toward graduatinn for their overseas classes, though courses do not always count toward a major or a smdent's grade-point average.

Moreover, many institutions allow Republicans

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their financial aid to accompany students abroad. The government now requires that all federal support, such as Stafford loans and Pell grants, be port-

Ms. Santos-Lim's semester in Spain. coordinated by Sweet Briar College in Virginia, cost \$7,870 plus air fare. Though she has a need-based scholarship that covers her mition - every penny of which Yale contributed toward Ms. Santos-Lim's study abroad — thatstill made for a substantial saving, according to her father, Jose Lim, a building manager in New York.

"For going to Spain, it cost us about \$4,000," he said. "For staying at Yale, the out-of-pocket would have been. \$6,000 or \$7,000."

Mr. Lim called the saving "a pleasant. surprise" --- especially gratifying since

Number of Americans studying abroad has jumped 84 percent during the last decade.

he would have otherwise paid for his daughter to take an expensive European. trip after graduation.

Another example of enriched education at a handsome saving is Megan Hoyt, a 1996 graduate of Carleton College. Ms. Hoyt, a Russian major, smoled ... at the University of Glasgow, Scotland, during the first semester of her junior. ar and moved to the Russian State: University of St. Petersburg for the remainder of the year. The total cost? About half the \$23,375 that the year would have cost at Carleton, in Min-

"Not only is it broadening for the student it very definitely is a boon to the parents financially," said her father, Sam Hoyt, a New York investor-relations consultant. With the help of Carleton's financial aid, Mr. Hoyt estimat-ed, "I wound up paying something like \$5,000 for the entire year."

The number of American college and graduate students studying abroad for. credit has almost doubled over the lastdecade, to more than 89,242 in the 1995-96 school year, the most recent for which the Institute of International Education, a leading exchange and training group, has compiled figures. And the tempo is continuing to pick up, ac-cording to Edwin Battle, the group's director of publications.

Mr. Battle said, "There has been an

explosion of new programs attracting. students to areas that were once coosidered very out of the way or, in the case of the former Soviet Union, al inaccessible only a few years ago."

The growth seems only marginally affected, experts say, by incidents in which students come to physical harm; abroad, such as the rape of five American students in Guatemala in January... and the resulting movement to bold universities legally liable.

Belgian Police Face Growing Distrust

Charges of Incompetence and Laxity Are Leveled at Fragmented Forces

By Barry James

BRUSSELS — Passengers leaving the Anderlecht Metro station in Brussels on a recent evening were subjected to an unusually stringent ticket control.

While a gendarme demanded tickets, dozens nf officers stood by, many holding Alsatian and Doberman dogs on leashes. Nearby was a platoon of mounted police and a line of riot trucks. This was the usual welcoming com-

mittee for supporters of the Anderlecht soccer team, which was playing at home that evening. What happened next, according to residents of the well-tended homes sur-

rounding the stadium, was true to form. The match was followed by a small riot in which some of the soccer fans smashed windows and wrecked cars. But the gendarmes stayed clear. And

the municipal police said the mayhem was not their concern. Their joh, they said, was to prevent incidents inside the stadium. Residents were left with the task of cleaning up and trying to get compensation from insurance companies. A local shopkeeper said she had giv-

en up on the idea of getting protection from the police. The routine incident appeared to il-

lustrate a facet of Belgian policing, which despite sometimes heavy-handed visibility, appears lax and ineffective. A parliamentary report last month sharply criticized the entire criminal justice sys-

tem, including both the police and the judiciary, for undisciplined, inept and potentially corrupt handling of the na-tinn's pedophile scandal and associated crimes. The revelation of police rivalry and incompetence following the discovery of the bodies of four girls al-legedly murdered by a convicted sex offender, Marc Dutroux, has created a political backlash that could have an impact on federal elections next year.

The dysfunction is hardly surprising, given that the capital alone has a sep-arate communal force for each of its 19 districts, with no common means of coordination or communication. The country's language split, and the fact that magistrates and the 26 regional prosecutors are selected for political allegiance rather than competence, further complicates matters.

Analysts say the inefficiency and divisinn of the police, along with the relaxing of European border controls, has opened the way to a steep rise in organized crime and banditry in the capital of Europe.

For example, within the past five months, arms-wielding robbers have hi-

Correction

Global Financial Crisis Are You Prepared for the Risks?

Are You Positioned for the Profits:

Call and Prepare Today

An article in the weekend editions erred on which nations had argued against the World Court's taking jurisdiction of the Lockerbie case. It should have said Britain and the United States.

jacked 235 luxury cars, including those belonging to several diplomats and the European commissioner for social affairs, Padraig Flynn. Diplomats said several of their colleagues had been rohbed at gunpoint recently.

A series of attacks on armored trucks. including a spectacular daylight heist in which twn guards were killed, led to a six-week strike by security guards that left the country short of ready cash.

Mafia organizations dealing in drugs, prostitution, car thefts and money-laundering are reported to be active in Brussels, Antwerp and the southern Frenchspeaking Walloon region. In December, newspapers reported the theft of data on organized crime collected by the European Union's Europol Drugs Unit.

 Several major crimes remain un-solved, including the murder of Andre Cools, the Walloon Socialist leader, and the daytime shooting of 28 people in nr near supermarkets in the 1980s.

Prime Minister Jean-Luc Dehaene has proposed bringing the nation's police forces under integrated command. These include the 16,000-strong national gendarmerie, the 18,000 officers in 589 communal forces, and the criminal police

attached to each prosecutor's office. Reform has long been opposed by mayors, who fear it would deprive them of political control. But by drawing the mayors into the process, and leaving them a large measure of control over the integrated forces, the government hopes that it can push the reform through.

E-mail: elizabpr@pacific.net.sg

he Elizabeth Orchard Road Singapore Middle East Stay in April Fax: (65) 732 3866

TRAVEL UPDATE

Cloud on Asia Tourism BANGKOK - Asia's ongoing economic crisis, coupled with environmental disasters, has kept Asian vacationers at home and discouraged European and American tourists.

Analysts said plummeting local currencies had proved an ineffective draw card for those seeking cheap vacations, while bushfires in Indonesia last year, spurred by the El Niño weather pattern. cast a pall over beach resorts.

The flow of tourists to Singapore began plummeting for the first time in 14 years in October, and has since fallen

Europe

for four consecutive months. As Indonesia's forest fires polluted the skies over Malaysia during the latter part of 1997, tourist arrivals in Malaysia fell 19.2 percent, to 6 million, according to official estimates.

Smoke from forest and bushfires in East Kalimantan Province, on Borneo Island, has disrupted air traffic and prompted health concerns, Indonesians officials said Sunday.

Tokyo received a rare March snowfall Sunday, delaying some trains and can-celing many domestic flights. (Reuters)

This Week's Holidays

Banking and government offices will be closed or services curtailed in the. following countries and their dependencies this week because of national and. eligious bolidays:

MONDAY: Australia, Cyprus, Ethiopia, Greece, Libya.
TUESDAY: Bulgaria, Georgia, Malawi, MoINTON: President

diene Hig

STREET COM to lawyer

Noted min

THURSDAY: Tahiri FRIDAY: Ghana.

SATURDAY: Nepal Sources: J.P. Morgan, Bloomberg.

WEATHER

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n Thrown Break Silence On Intern and **Lash at Clinton**

By Thomas B. Edsall Washington Post Service

BILOXI, Mississippi — After weeks of wary silence, leading Republicans took the stage at a gambling resurt here over the weekend to assail the "national embarrassment of sex and perjury al-legations against President Bill Clinton.

At a meeting of more than 1,600 Southern Republicans, prinspective presidential and vice presidential candidates, congressional leaders and govemors assaulted Mr. Clinton with a combination of caustic humor and statements of high morality over the question of whether the president had sex with a former White House intern and then asked her to lie about it.

Former Vice President Dan Quayle called for enactment of a new crime program: "Three interns and you're

Most of the anu-Clinton comments were not, however, vniced in get a

Tom Ridge of Pennsylvania, who is trying to win approval as a prospective vice presidential nominee, declared that Mr. Clining has publicly advocated personal responsibility but seems incapable of taking

responsibility for his own actions.
Representative J.C. Wants Jr. of Oklahoma, who has also been mentioned as a potential vice presidential running mate, asked, Friends, what has happened to us when a bigh school football or baskethall coach has to live to a higher standard than the president of the United States? Lamar Alexander, former Tennessee

governor and past presidential aspirant, said, "What is happening today in the Oval Office is a national embarrass-

Until now, Republican strategy has called for party leaders to stand aside and let the independent counsel's investigation into Monica Lewinsky's taperecorded allegations play out. Republican reluctance to enter the fray has been reinforced by poll results showing Mr. Clinton's job approval shooting up into the 70 percent-plus favorability range.

Senator Fred Thompson of Tennessee said he generally supported a Republican strategy of noninvolvement in the Clinton-Lewinsky controversy, but "if it becomes apparent that this White House is intent on investigating, dig-ging up dirt and dragging through the mire anyone who criticizes what they are doing, or if this White House is intent on coming up with claims of phony executive privilege as a means of keeping the facts from the American people, it's going to be time for us to get off the sidelines."

"Quayle 2000" and "Quayle-Bush' signs suggested that one of Mr. Quayle's major competitors for the 2000 nomination, Governor George Bush of Texas, should be the vice presidential nominee, just as Mr. Quayle was vice president during the presidency of Mr. Bush's father.

■ Bush Wins Straw Poll

Governor Bush won a presidential straw poll of the Southern Republican activists Sunday, and a large majority also said they thought he would be the party's White House nominee for 2000, Reuters reported from Biloxi.



Southern Republican Leadership canterence

Senator Fred Thompson taking his turn to attack the president in Biloxi.

AMERICAN

TOPICS

A Bachelor Waits: Will She Leave N.Y. for Fairbanks?

Jay Ramras, a most cligible Jewish bachelor, went to New York City from Alaska four months ago in search of his dream woman, the Jewish population of Alaska being quite small Now he has found what he wanted if only he can sell her on Fairbanks.

In that town of 33,000, single men outnumber single women by 5 to 3 and few are Jewish, New York City, a relative had pointed out to Mr. Ramras, has 1.9 million Jews. The search by Mr. Ramras, who

owns a chain of restaurants in Alaska, has made him a bit of a celebrity in New York, New York magazine has carried weekly progress reports on his dozens of dates. The tall Alaskan, who is 33, played

host at Jewish singles parties and spoke at synagogues. He took his dates to Broadwny shows and hockey games. His friendly and unaffected style made him popular - hut the dea of freezing in Alaska did not help

At a good-bye brunch, fale intervened. Mr. Ramras met a young Jew-tsh marketing executive. He put off his return home. But the woman,

whom he declines to identify, is determined to stay in New York.
On Monday, Mr. Ramras returns to Fnirbanks, not ending the relationship but giving it breathing room, he says.
Depending on the mystery woman he Depending on the mystery woman, he leaves open the idea of returning, and maybe even living in the Big Apple. Short Takes

From governor to county jailer,

newly elected officials in Kentucky must raise their right hand and sol-emnly swear tu three things: to support the state and federal constituuons; to faithfully execute their duties; and in neither take part in nor help organize armed duels. Lawyers newly admitted to the bar must take the same vow. The part about duels invariably draws giggles from the inaugural crowd. It dates to the antebellum days, when proud Kentuckians commonly resorted to pistols, not lawsuits, to senle assaults on their honor.

"It makes Kentucky look silly," said Thomas Clark, a state historian, 'It has no pertinence" now, he says, though it did in 1849, when it was written into the state constitution, Newspapermen then were challenged over critical stories. Two men once dueled over who knew more about the classical languages. Support has grown for a proposed constitutional amendment to drop dueling from the state oath. But a limit on the number of such proposals each session may keep it in.

The number of children injured by shopping carts is way up, and a child safety organization blames harried parents in a hurry. The number of preschoolers taken to emergency rooms because of such accidents has risen 30 percent since 1985 to about 1,600. Carts are top-heavy, so children can be hurt when they stand up in, jump off, fall out of, run into, climb on, catch a finger in or become struck hy carts.

A sex novelty shop in Houston has been forced to stop selling edible underwear because it lacks a food service license. "It's so silly," said Myrtle Freeman, owner of Condoms & More. Actually, she could bave continued offering the underwear had the heart willing to page \$200 entred. she been willing to pay a \$200 annual permit fee for regular health inspections - or fought it in court.

Brian Knowlton

CLINTON: President's Outward Calm Belies His Rage at Starr

Continued from Page 1

his staff. It also helps shape the dynamics at the White Honse as aides there consider how to respond to the sixweek-old perjury and ob-struction of justice probe by Mr. Starr.

While be has publicly pledged cooperation, Mr. Clinton privately wants to find ways to thwart the Starr investigation while his attorneys build a legal defense, associates said. At times, Mr. Clinton even mulls over bow Mr. Starr might somehow be forced from office - not by dismissing him, but by pressuring him into overstepping and letting him "effectively fire himself," as one confidant put it.

However much be may ruminate about such ideas, though, White House officials insist there is no effort at this time to seek Mr. Starr's ouster. Under the independent counsel law, Attorney General Janet Reno could fire Mr. Starr for "good cause," and the president presumably could order her to do so.

But senior White House officials say they believe that would be sheer disaster for Mr. Clinton because it invarially would be seen as the modern-day equivalent of the "Saturday Night Massacre" in 1973 when President Richard Nixon ordered the dismissal of the Watergate special prosecutor, Archibald

Mr. Clinton's top aides are convinced that in his calm-

is not always calm. From a putely pragmatic investigators, then drove

they are better off keeping Mr. Starr in place because the prosecutor is viewed so negarively by the American pub-

"How could you have a better guy there?" asked James Carville, the president's former political consultant who for years has been waging what he calls a public "war" against Mr. Starr with the tacit approval of the White House. "You've got a guy investigating you that twothirds of the country hates. How could you be better?"

That has not slowed efforts by Clinton allies to undermine Mr. Starr in the public arena. The White House has denied using private invesngators employed by Mr. Clinton's lawyers to dig up dirt on prosecutors, but has acknowledged circulating negative news accounts about past prosecutions carried out by Mr. Starr's lieutenants.

Mr. Clinton's suspicions about a Starr-Jones collaboration also have found their way into public accusations by his surrogates. Several congressional Democrats a covered person, such as the himself, almost Zen-like, have alleged a collusion. The president's recently departed chief scandal spokesman. Lanny Davis, has been appearing on television shows repeating the charge, though he said he has never discussed

it with Mr. Clinton. The major basis for the allegation is that Linda Tripp was helping Mr. Starr and Mrs. Jones simultaneously. In fact, the day before Mr. Clinton's Jan. 17 deposition in the headed moments he recogniz- Jones case, Ms. Tripp lured es the political consequences, Ms. Lewinsky to an Arlingbut it is a subject on which he ton, Virginia, hotel where she was detained by Mr. Starr's

the president under oath. Mrs. Jones's lawyers have

denied teaming up with Mr. Starr and rejected the notion they laid a perjury trap for Mr. Clinton, noting it was his choice whether to tell the truth or not. In private, the Clinton defense team has been searching for other ways to back up an

accusation of prosecutorial misconduct, according to a source familiar with the discussions. Among other things, the source said, the lawyers are focusing on whether the Start investiga-tion was properly authorized in the first place because the original order expanding his mandate to look into the Lewinsky maner did not specifically name an official counsel law.

That technical argument may have little merit because pand the investigation was president seems on the job. made under a provision in the

For all of the strategizing, the White House publicly insists that it has been fully cooperative with Mr. Starr. 'There has not been a

White House is going to delay or be obstructive," said the While House counsel, Charles Ruff. "Delay is not a cooperating." his lawyers, to whom he has turned because he can speak

attempts to compel White House aides and Secret Service agents to testify because point of view, many Clinton home to hrief a Jones lawyer of "the institutional impor- late-night discussions or

ported affair so that precise ident's confidential commu-questions could be asked of nications and his physical nications and his physical safety. The White House is preparing to invoke executive privilege to limit Mr. Starr's ability to question the deputy counsel, Bruce Lindsey, and other top aides summoned to the grand jury.

But for Mr. Clinton, there is more to it than the institutional prerogatives. Mr. Lindsey has been a friend for 30 years and "the equivalent of Bill Clinton's taping system," as one source in the Clinton camp put it, and the president is determined to fight to protect the confidentiality of their talks.

Around most people, Mr. Clinton maintains a certain degree of detachment about Mr. Starr, displaying his famed ability to "compartmental-ize" aspects of his life. Even covered by the independent some of his most senior aides said they had not seen the hursts of rage and frustration described by others and were Mr. Starr's authority to ex- struck by how focused the

"In private, the president law that does not require that seems quite at peace with president, be the focus of the said Douglas Sosnik, the president's counselor who accompanies him on almost every out-of-town trip, talking, strategizing and playing

cards late into the night. Yet another person close to single suggestion that the Mr. Clinton described his feelings toward Mr. Starr as "a slow, intense hum" that only sometimes made itself visible and often just with the strategy. As always we are closest of friends - or with his lawyers, to whom he has House had fought Mr. Starr's freely with them without worrying they might be forced to disclose their private talks. The outhursts often come in

Colombia Farmers Stuck With Drugs

Funds to Switch Crops Unavailable

By Diana Jean Schemo

POPAYAN, Colombia -At first, nothing could have been easier for these struggling rural hamlets than getting into the drug business. Up and down the Valle del Cauca, these scanered villages climbed on the coca bandwagon early, enjoying a fiveyear joyride that is sull re-

food, prices for coca leaf dropped and the cost of the food they had to buy soared. Crop dusters financed by U.S. anti-drug efforts poisoned the harvest. And gradually, the problems that co-caine has fueled in urban

ghenos - vinlence, shattered families and an addiction to easy money -- reached back grower whose community is to the valley like a curse returning in its roots. As life unraveled, the coca

growers learned that although Colombia was spending \$1.1 billion a year fighting drug trafficking and Washington was pouring more than \$100 million a year into Colombia's anti-narcotics police. hardly any of that money was

Washington's strategy in Colombia, where about 80 percent of the cocaine sald in the United States originates, never included the kind of highly effective programs in Bolivia and Peru that have helped peasants raise altern-

auve crops.

Indeed, while drug crops in
Bolivia and Peru — where
fumigation is banned — have continued to fall, the world's leading producer of coca last year was Colombia, where fumigation is Washington's weapon of choice. "It's ironic and disturbing

that the one country where you have massive aerial eradication is the one where you've got an increase in coca production," said Coletta Youngers, a senior associate at the Washington Office on Latin America, a nonprofit policy research organization. "There's something fundamentally wrong there.

tion announced Thursday that eral Accounting Office.

it would grant a waiver to Colombia this year as an acknowledgment of progress in destroying crops.

But the results have not been encouraging. Last year, Colombian pilots poisoned 40,000 hectares (100,000 acres) of coca crops, and yet the total area under coca cultivation rose

nearly 20 percent.

While Washington formulerred to here as La Brinanza.

But as more and more trafficking by potsoning craps, farmers grew coca instead of attacking trafficking by potsoning craps. up labs, the strategy's limited successes are trumpeted widely. Less well known is the way the policy affects the peasants who took up illegal crops in a Faustian bargain to

join the middle class. "They confuse us with the Cali or Medellin cartel," said Eider Gironza Mamian, a coca weighing the prospects of ending coca cultivation. "Maybe they think we're rich, too, but in reality, we're poor. And our children go hungry."

Under President Ernesto Samper, whose relations with Washington have been plagued with accusations that Cali drug dealers bankrolled his election, the Colombian available to help communities government has tried to prostop growing illegal crops, more crop substitution with more crop substitution with aid from the European Community and the United Nations. But the dearth of help from the United States has sown deep ointemess among Colombians,

Indeed, U.S. officials at the Bank for Inter-American Development recently voted against a \$90 million loan to increase crop substitution in Colombia, an automatic consequence of Washington's decertification of Colombia over the past two years in the fight against drug trafficking. At the same time, the U.S.

anti-narcotics funding for Latin America's military and police more than tripled between 1996 and 1997, according to a report hy the Washington Office on Latin America. Still, the seizure of tens of

thousands of tons of heroin and cocaine between 1988 and 1995 and the destruction of about 54,000 hectares of coca After two years of impos- had 'made little impact on the ing sanctions on Colombia availability of illegal drugs in for failing to enforce drug the United States," according laws, the Clinton administrator to a 1997 report by the Gen-

By Michael A. Fletcher

Washington Post Service

POLITICAL NOTES

Questions Over Jones's Funds

WASHINGTON - Paula Jones hired a direct-mail firm last fall to raise hundreds of thousands of dollars for her legal battle against President Bill Clinton, but none of the money has gone to the foundation sponsoring her sexual harassment lawsuit or the lawyers pursuing it.

Mrs. Jones signed a contract in November with Bruce W. Eberie & Associates Inc., which guaranteed her a minimum of \$300,000 as long as the firm could make its own profit from the fund-taising campaign, according to a copy of the document. About \$100,000 has already been sent directly to Mrs. Jones, said a source familiar with the effort.

Solicitation leners and a newspaper advertisement drafted by Mr. Eberle's company, a firm long associated with conservative causes, said that the money raised would go to "htigatinn expenses." In one letter that went out over her signature, Mrs. Jones said: "My lawyers can't keep fighting naw without nutside funding. And they'll need at least \$250,000 to keep my case gaing." It added: "This money is going to help my legal case and expenses related to it

But the Rutherford Institute that is paying for expenses related to the lawsuit and the Dallas law firm that is representing Mrs. Jones in the case said that they had not gotten any money from the venture.

The issue of who has been bankrolling the Jones effort has been a flash point in the battle over her claim that Mr. Clinton propositioned her in a Little Rock hotel in 1991. Mr. Clinton's side has asserted that Mrs. Jones's motivation in pursuing the lawsuit is money, and the president's lawyers have hared investigators and issued subpoenas in an effort in determine how she is paying for her case. (WP)

Jordan's Grand Jury Summons

WASHINGTON - Vernnn Jordan Jr., President Clinton's close friend and unofficial adviser, has been summoned to appear Tuesday before the grand jury investigating the relationship between the president and Monica Lewinsky, a former White House intern, lawyers involved in the case said.

Kenneth Starr, the independent counsel conducting the inquiry, also ordered a Little Rock private investigator and former state police officer, O.H. Mullenax, to appear

before a grand jury in Little Rock on Tuesday.

The subpoenas indicate that Mr. Starr is moving on parallel tracks in two separate investigations. The major investigation concerns whether Mr. Clinton had a sexual affair with Ms. Lewinsky and then instructed her to lie about it under oath. Mr. Clinton denies both charges. The second investigation involves what Mr. Starr calls a smear campaign against his office by the White House,

Mr. Jordan could be an important witness in the case because he found Ms. Lewinsky a lawyer to represent ber after she had been subpoenaed as a witness in the Panla Jones sexual misconduct lawsuit against the president, Mr. Jordan also tried to help Ms. Lewinsky find a public relations position at Revion Inc. (NYT)

Quote/Unquote

President Clinton, in the Main Street Deli while on vacation in Park City, Utah, ordered a cup of decaf from the owner, Barbara Lindbloom, who remarked that she had voted for the president and that that was "hard in Utah." The president shook his head knowingly: "Hazardous to your health out here."

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Away From Politics

three is in prison, on parole or on probation.

ican society, the new report concluded.

comes to wealth inequality.

• Two months after a top executive of Philip Morris Cos, testified in 1994 before Congress that the cigarette maker did not "manipulate or independently control" nicotine in its products, company scientists reported on experiments that indicated that they could produce "enhanced" nicotine effects on a smoker's nervous system, an internal company document shows.

• For the first time since federal officials began keeping weather records in 1869, the month of February has passed without a trace of snow falling in New York's

In U.S., Study Says WASHINGTON -- Thirty years after a presidential commission declared "our nation is moving toward two societies, one black, one white — separate and unequal," that dire warning has become reality, according to a report made public Sunday.
"The Kerner Commission's prophecy has come to pass," said the report from the Milton S. Eisenhower Foundation, a group founded to continue the work of the commission, which was appointed by President Lyndon B. Johnson to probe the causes of rioting in urban America in the 1960s. The new report noted that substantial racial progress has occurred in the three decades since the Kerner Commission released its groundbreaking report. The black middle class has grown to unprecedented levels, black business has expanded and the number of black elected officials continues to increase. But even with those gains, inequalities with troubling racial dimensions are becoming more deeply rooted in Amer-"The rich are getting richer, the poor are getting poorer and minorities are suffering disproportionately," said the report. The report lists an array of racial and economic statistics to back its bleak conclusions. While the American economy booms, most adults in many inner cities do not work in a typical week. The top 1 percent of Americans have more wealth than the bottom 90 percent, the report says, placing the United States first among industrialized nations when it In addition, 40 percent of minority children attend urban schools, where more than half of the students are poor and fail to reach even "hasic" achievement levels. With 1.5 million prisoners, the United States incarcerates more people than any nation in the world, and one young African-American man in But Jim Sleeper, whose book "Liberal Racism" argues that many advocates overstate the significance of race, called the report's findings self-serving. While acknowledging that wide economic gaps continue to exist in society, he said that the reasons have less and less to do with race. "We have a race industry in this country," he said. "They downplay the good news because they feed on the bad. They draw their funding and moral cacbet from the bad, it is almost as if people want it to be 1963 over again, it is almost like people take their moral bearing by fixing the old coordinates

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of racism firmly in place."

strategists say they believe about Ms. Lewinsky's pur- tance' of protecting the pres- phone calls, said the sources.

& SPA.

ASIA/PACIFIC

Seoul's Twist on North Complicates U.S. Policy

By Nicholas D. Kristof

SEOUL -- The United States and South Korea have always been a bit like spouses as well as allies, and Scoul's basic demand of Washington has been for diplomatic fidelity: Thou shalt not commit adultery with North Korea. Whenever American diplomats have

even proposed sitting at a table with North Korean counterparts, there has been pleoty of explaining to do in

But now as South Korea searches for ways to engage its longtime enemy to the north, there are hiots that it may consider releasing the United States from its vows — and that leaves Washington with the challenge of figuring out how to respond.

The new South Korean president, Kirn Dae Jung, suggested in his inaugural address Wednesday that it would be fine "if North Korea pushes for interaction and cooperation with our friends, in-cluding the United States and Japan."

Indeed, some South Koreans are wondering aloud whether a bit of diplomatic two-timing by the United States might be the best way to clear the air.

'Many members of our party think it can be considered as a useful and prac-

tical tool for the United States to recognize North Korea to stabilize the Korean Peninsula," said Kim Min Seuk, a member of the National Assembly from the National Congress for New Politics, which is also President Kim's party.

That remains the minority view in South Korea, but it does suggest that Mr. Kim's inauguration may have opened new options for the United States — even if Washington does not seem eager 10 pursue them.

For now the United States still appears committed to its policy of applying economic sanctions against North Korea and limiting official contacts. Washington and Pyongyang have agreed to work toward eventual diplomatic recognition, but that seems a long way off.

Years ago there was discussion in the United States about recognizing North Korea as part of a cross-recognition deal whereby Moscow and Beijing would recognize South Korea, But in the end Russia and China established diplomatic relations with Seoul on their own, and the United States still has almost no dealings with the North. What contacts do take place are usually limited to specific subjects. There have been direct discussions on curbing the North's missile program and on recovering the bodies of U.S. soldiers killed in the Korean War.

And there are periodic four-party talks, involving China and the United States as well as the two Koreas, aimed at building peace on the Korean Peninsula.

Part of the problem is that the North is about as unpalatable a diplomatic partner as one can imagine, making Iraq look like a democracy. U.S. officials say North Korea has engaged in acts of ter-rorism, including the bombing in 1987 of a South Korean civilian aircraft that exploded in midair, killing all 115 aboard.

In addition, Pyongyang has resisted even exchanging liaison offices, a step toward eventual diplomatic relations. Washington's formal position is that

relations should improve first between the two Koreas and that it does not want to irritate an old ally like South Korea unnecessarily. Even if Mr. Kim seems more open to the idea of relations be-tween the United States and North Korea, many other South Koreans are deeply anxious about it.

Lee Hong Koo, an influential former prime minister of South Korea, said that growing cootacts between the United States and North Korea are inevitable, but he warned that Washington should proceed very carefully to avoid inflamng South Korean society.

in Korea," Mr. Lee said, "and they are great disservice to Kim Dae Jung.



A supporter of President Kim Dae Jung, left, slapping a handicapped South Korean at a rally Sunday in Seoul. The man had complained about the new president's acceptance of a new law that would permit layoffs.

the bloc of people who bave the greatest doubt about Kim Dae Jung. So if sud-should be very careful about." Washington to re-evaluate its Korea policy and to discuss further links with denly the United States comes op with that sort of proposal and that becomes an item of consultation between Seoul We have a sizable conservative bloc and Washingtoo, that could really do a

The U.S. ambassador in Seoul, Stephen Bosworth, emphasized the United States' sensitivity to these South Korean coocerns. He sidestepped a question about whether it was time for North Korea.

"That's not the answer to the prob-lem." Mr. Bosworth said. "The answer to the problem is for the North and South

ministerial lineup this month. The cabinet was officially dissolved Sunday when the 1,000member assembly that will elect a president began its 11-day session.

a seventh five year term.
"I don't make a fuss," Mr. Sar-wono said when asked about his

Mr. Suharto, who has governed for

32 years, is running unopposed for

Amid Fires,

Jakarta Aide

Ready to Quit

JAKARTA - While dozens of

fires spread thick smoke haze

across the eastern side of the island

of Borneo on Sunday, Indonesia's

outspoken environment minister.

said he was ready to leave office. · The Jakarta Post newspaper

reappointed to the cabinet when

President Suharto selects a new

quoted Sarwono Kusumaanna as saying he did not expect to be

The newspaper did not say why Mr. Sarwono might not be re-

Last year Mr. Sarwono made headlines when he blamed plantation and forestry companies, some of them linked to associates or relatives of Mr. Suharto's, for the fires that covered the region in

Since then, be has admitted frankly that Indonesia's deep economic crisis would hamper the country's ability to control new

Hundreds of fires between July and November produced a haze over much of Southeast Asia last year, threatening the health of mil-

The new fires in Borneo have raised fears the widespread haze

might return.
As in 1997, officials say that many of the fires this year have been started deliberately to clear land cheaply.

The fires have been burning

while a drought grips the eastern part of Borneo, which should be experiencing heavy rain at this time

Meteorologists blame the El Niño weather phenomenon for the delay of the wet season.

The government estimates that at least 13,840 hectares (34,600 acres) of forest have been burned since January, although others estimate that fires have swept through as many as 100,000 hectares of land.

INDIA: Voting Ends in Contest Between Secular and Hindu Visions for Subcontinent

Continued from Page 1

set the explosions to try to disrupt the rally organized by Mr. Advani or even

But Muslim leaders in the city re-peated over the weekend what they and the Congress Party's national president, Sitaram Kesri, alleged immediately after the bombings. They say the explosions were, in effect, India's equivalent of the Reichstag fire in Berlin in 1933 — a provocation organized by Hindu nationalist extremists to stampede Hindus into voting en masse for the Hindu party.

Historians bave said that the Nazi Party organized the Reichstag fire, which guited Germany's prewar Par-liament, then blamed the Communists to justify emergency measures that consolidated Hitler's power.

"We Muslims didn't do it," said Abdul Latif, 50, a property dealer who is secretary of the Coimbatore Muslim Federation, one of the most influential of the city's Muslim groups. "The bombings were a stunt organized by the

Hindu nationalists to assure that they will win in Coimbatore and get a majority in Parliameot. They want to herd all Hindus in India into the Hindu na-

tionalist camp."

But this view found few takers among Hindus arriving at the city's polling places, who appeared to favor the Hindu party strongly. Crowds of eager voters pressed

around trestle tables set up by the Hindu

nationalists oear the polling places, while similar tables set up by the gov-erning party in Tamil Nadu state, allied in the elections to the Congress Party, were quiet for long periods.

At many polling places, the voting was being closely watched by members

of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, a secretive Hindu nationalist group foun-ded in 1925 and modeled in its early days on the Nazi Party. The group has helped to found a succession of political parties, including Bharatiya Janata.

Whichever way the election goes, few Indians doubt that it will represent a historic turning point — made all the more poignant by Mrs. Gandhi's in-

volvement and the coincidence of the electioo's occurring in the 50th anniversary year of India's independence. If the Hindu nationalists win, their critics say, it will be a rejection of much of what India has stood for in its first halfcentury as a free nation.

As much as they have been fascinated by the role of Mrs. Gandhi, a 51-yearold Roman Catholic who came to polities as the widow and daughter-in-law of two assassinated prime ministers, Rajiv and Indira Gandhi, Indians have been transfixed by what her battle with the Hindu nationalists represents.

The special irony of this - endlessly highlighted by the Hindu nationalist leaders in their personal attacks on Mrs.
Gandhi as a "foreign hand" and as a representative sent to India by "Rome" has been that the Congress Party, tired and corrupted after more than 44 years in power, had to turn to a foreign-born woman, albeit one with Indian citizenship, to make its case.

The central issue, protagonists on both sides of the struggle say, has been the choice the election has given voters

handas K. Gandhi, the independence leader, of a nation that is an equal fusion of myriad cultures and faiths, and another India, one that hearkens back to an ancieot time before Hinduism was forced by conquest and contact to ac-commodate Buddhist, Islamic, Christian and other beliefs.

The Hindn party built its campaign around its candidate for prime minister, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, a 71-year-old parliamentary veteran who is considered a moderate in nationalist terms, and on promises by Mr. Vajpayee and others that the party will moderate its program if necessary to retain parlia-mentary support. This approach seemed to be broadly successful with many Hindus who do not favor measures that would be harmful to Muslims and other groups but feel that it is time to give the nationalists a chance to govern.

Venkatarama Padmanabhan, 67, the director of the Coimbatore chapter of the Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said, "People want to have a look and see what they can do.'

Burma Arrests 40 in Alleged Plot

RANGOON - The military regime in Burma has arrested 40 people whom it accuses of planning to bomb government buildings and embassies and assassinate the re-

A government spokesman, Colonel Kyaw Thein, said Sunday that the plot was led by the All Burma Students Democratic Front, made up of former students who fled the suppression of a pro-democracy uprising in 1988.

A spokesman for the students' front, Aung

Naing Oo, denied the assertion, saying that the group had given up armed struggle last year and was oow seeking change in Burma through "oonviolent, political defiance."

"We didn't have anything to do with this," he said in Bangkok. "It's the usual military

Colonel Kyaw Thein said that among those arrested in January was a law graduate, U Ko Thein, described as the leader of a plot to "undermine public confidence in the government.

Colonel Kyaw Thein said at a oews conference that the student insurgents were arrested would be tried.

linked to the party of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, the democracy advocate. He said two mem-bers of her National League for Democracy, U Myo Thant and U Pol Khwa, had established contact with the student group and gone un-

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, has said that she is seeking a nonviolent way to bring democracy to

Colonel Kyaw Thein said that no action has been taken against the laureate's party but that the regime wanted to "highlight the National the illegal organization.

The colooel said the insurgents were hoping to place bombs at government buildings and embassies of members of the Association of South East Asian Nations, which admitted Burma as a member last July and has generally supported the regime. Fuses concealed in cigarettes and some explosives that the colonel said were seized from U Ko Thein

The colonel did oot say when the people

derground in November.

League for Democracy's obvious link with

were exhibited at the news conference.

BRIEFLY

Khmer Rouge Assails Cease-Fire as a Ruse

PHNOM PENH—The Khrner Rouge on Sunday condemned a cease-fire declared Rights in Hong Kong last week as an effort by Secood Prime Minister Hun Sen to destroy the opposition loyal to Prince Norodom Ranariddh, the deposed first prime minister.

The Khmer Rouge, which has been helping the prince's forces in fighting that erupted after Prince Ranariddh was toppled by Mr. Hun Sen last July, called for the war against the government to continue.

Both government forces and Prince Ranariddh's men were ordered by their commanders to stop fighting each other Friday. But the cease-fire did not cover the Khmer Rouge, who operate out of Cambodia's remote northern forests.

The Khmer Rouge says it is alarmed because the government side is insisting that under the cease-fire, the prince's forces must declare their positions, troop strength and weapons supplies, and must break all ties with the Khmer Rouge. (Reuters)

Chinese Dissidents Held

BELITING - Two more Chinese dissenters have been arrested, for threatening state security and disturbing social order, as part of a flurry of detentions before Par-liament opens this week, a human rights group io Hong Kong said Sunday.

The police did not specify what the pair had done to merit arrest, the Informatioo Center of Human Rights and Democranc Movement in China said, quoting relatives

of the dissenters. The dissenters are Ma Lianggang of An- no casualties, the police said.

boi Province, arrested Saturday for threat-ening state security, and Yang Qinheng of Shanghai, detained Friday for disturbing social order, the group said. (Reuters)

HONG KONG — The people of Hong Koog face a steady diminution of their civil rights under Chinese rule, political analysts said Sunday.

"We are seeing a progressive tightening of control on the political front," said a commentator, Lau Yui-smi.

Last week, the local government repealed a part of the territory's pre-bandover Bill of Rights that had allowed lawsuits over human-rights violations. Hong Kong's election authority also ruled out letting international observers monitor the former British colony's first vote under the gov-

emmeot that took over in July. Local officials have defended their moves by saying it was important to balance freedom and social order. (Reuters)

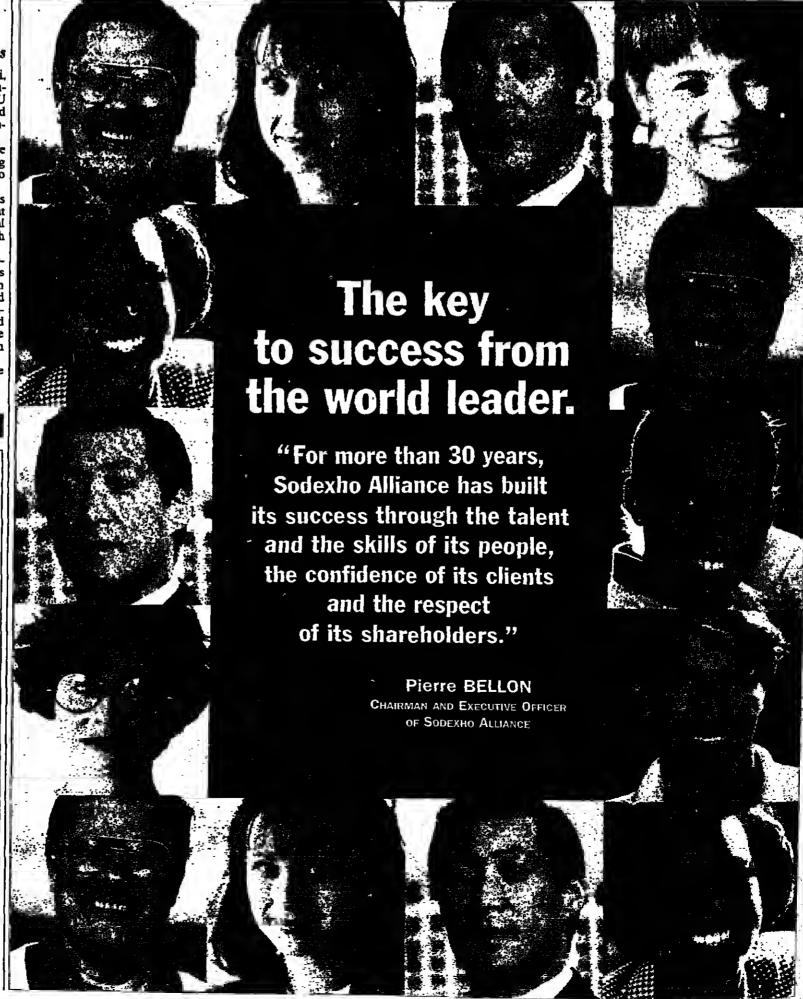
Pakistan Arrests 150

KARACHI, Pakistan-The police have detained 150 people in connection with a recent series of killings here, police and

party officials said Sunday.

The authorities made the arrests during raids in the Korangi and Landhi districts of Karachi, which has been torn by ethnic and religious strife. The crackdown came amid a wave of violence that has left 30 dead in 10 days, including the killing of eight people by unidentified gunmen in Korangi last week.

Meanwhile, a bomb exploded Saturday in the capital, Islamabad, causing panic but



Reich Journalists maked in Pasnia

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fares spread thick smoke to across the easiern side of the factorial contents on Sunday, Indoor environment

of Borneo on Sunday, Indones, cartspoken environment many said he was feady to leave offer as saying he did not expect to the cahment of the cahment. reappointed to the cabine at President Suharto selects to manisterial lineup this month

The cabinet was officially solved Sunday when the life member assembly that will da president began its 11-day son Mr. Suharto, who has governed Mr. Sunario, who has governo a seventh five-year term. I don't make a fuss, Mr L. wono said when asked about

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Borneo, which mould's expensioning beary tainardiese Mataorologists, blame the 2 Nation weather phenomenon for a

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EUROPE

Amid Fires, Jakarta Aide Ready to Qui The Athon later D. By Juseph Fitchett International Heraid Tribune By Juseph Fitchett International Heraid Tribune The Association of the Socialist govern The Association of the Socialist government governmen

Vedrine said Sunday that French dip-lomatic "ingenuity" in the Iraq crisis Helping cre showed the special power of France as a analysts said Sunday, the French guv-"lever" in world affairs and the intangible assets endowing Paris with influence well beyond its economic strength and military punch.

The image of France's international leverage came naturally to Mr. Vedrine after perhaps the best week for French diplomacy under the last three govern-

British Journalists

Attacked in Bosnia

MOSTAR, Bosnia-Herzegovina— Two British journalisis who disap-

peared while researching a story on

misused charity funds in the Citatian

part of Bosnia said Sunday they were beaten and threatened at gunpoint be-

Mike Grimes, 22, and Jeffrey Pick-

ett, 27, both of Liverpool, went miss-

ing late Saturday in the southern part

of Bosnia that is predominantly in-habited by Croats. They later showed

up south of Mostar, after walking 10

kilometers (6 miles) through the

mountains. Doctors reported the two

Mr. Pickett said that he and Mr.

Grimes were stopped and attacked by two men in a car while driving through a village near Medjugorje, 25 kilo-meters southwest of Mostar, where

they were headed to film a hand-gren-

ade factory that was operational dur-

3 Ministers Depart

In Yeltsin Reshuffle

MOSCOW - President Boris

Yeltsin, who had pledged a govern-

ment reshuffle, dismissed three min-

isters Saturday, but all key reformers

The Itar-Tass press agency said Mr.

Yeltsin had dismissed Valeri Scrov.

deputy prime minister in charge of

relations with former Soviet republics,

Transport Minister Nikolai Tsakh and

Education Minister Vladimir Kinely-

remained in their posts.

had been severely bearen.

fore escaping.

ing the war.

BRIEFLY

those words in a wide-ranging hourlong nuise on the European Central Bank, radio interview, a series ill recent events getting the No. 2 joh for the first term and PARIS — Foreign Minister Hubert ment's popularity to a 57 percent ap-

Helping create this new honeymoon, ernment was widely credited with tempering U.S. belligerence to broker a deal with Iraq. The European single currency seemed more tangihle than ever Friday when II nations, including France, met the technical criteria as they crossed the finish line a month ahead of the final decision on initial membership. And ments. Although Mr. Vedrine did not use France reportedly reached a contpro-

ov. All three were "relieved of their

Their new posts were not immediately

known, and there was no word on their

replacements.
Mr. Yelisin had ruled our dropping

key figures like the young reformers Boris Nemtsov and Anatoli Chubais

Haider Shuns Race

VIENNA - Joerg Haider, leader of

Austria's rightist Freedom Party, an-

nounced Sunday that he would not be a

candidate in next month's presidential

elections, the APA news agency re-

ported, Mr. Haider told Austrian tele-

vision that a decision on which can-

didate his party would support in the

on whether the Freedom Party would

name its own candidate for the largely

figurehead post of national president.

comfortably in the lead in his bid for

re-election, according to an opinion

For the Record

No decision had been made so far

The incumbent, Thomas Klestil, is

Volkswagen and the Roman

Catholic Church of France have

settled a dispute about car advertise-

ments, which the church considered as

an offensive use of religious images.

In their out-of-court settlement,

Volkswagen and its advertising agency, DDB-Needham, agreed to

pay \$50,000 to a Catholic charity, and

the bishops dropped their suit. (NYT)

April 19 vote would be made later.

To Pick President

from his team.

posts due to transfer to another job.

Prime Minister Lionel Jospin, together with Jacques Chirac, the conservative president who shares power with the Socialist government, seemed to throw France's weight judiciously into the balance when the fight was winnable - and to know when to walk by, saying, "We don't have a dog in that fight."

That seemed very much on Mr.

In all of these events, Mr. Vedrine and

Vedrine's mind as he described how France worked last month to develop an option other than military force against Iraq, consolidating reluctance among other European countries, including those that were technically committed to supporting the United States it combat

Similarly, he said, France worked this weekend to shape the United Nations Security Council resolution in terms of lifting sanctions and reintegraring Iraq in the community of nations, once, he said, Iraq has complied with UN inspections.

He was careful, constantly, to stress diat France was seeking "constructive convergence, not damaging disharmony" with the United States.

Indeed, Mr. Vedrine has easily settled some bones of contention, such as U.S.-French rivalry in Africa, There, U.S. and French troops this weekend were both observers at the first exercises being carried out by a new African joint peacekeeping force, a U.S. suggestion decried in Paris when it was made three years

ago. Since then, the Socialist government decided to save funds and avoid political embarrassment by cutting back its military role in Africa.

With this approach, the government, in its first year in office, has offered smooth performance in contrast to the embarrassing flip-flops under previous governments.

The Socialists, like Mr. Chirac, see France's room for maneuver defined by Washington,

Mr. Vedrine on Sunday described the United States as "beyond a superpower — an ultrapower," which was unassailable in direct confrontation.

Drawing on his familiarity with the policy process in Washington, Mr. Vedrine seemed to offer a diplomatic, almost upbeat version of the view taken last week by Jean-Marie Colombani, editor of the newspaper Le Monde, who wrote about "Americans' arrogance in thinking that they decide for everyone, an approach that often leaves Washington with nothing but a military option that the United States does not really



Demonstrators in London on Sunday protesting changes to country life. hospitals and schools. (AFP, Reuters)

Rural Britons Rally in Show Of Discontent

Control in the Saffrey Drive in

LONDON — An estimated 250,000 country folk marched peacefully through central London on Sunday to protest against issues ranging from a proposed han on foxhunting to rules prohibiting the sale of beef on the bone.

Hunters in riding gear and gentlemen clasping walking sticks joined butchers, farmers, villagers and landowners from across the nation to show the 10-monthold Labour government that the rural lobby is strong and vocal. The march snarled truffic for hours.

The rully started off as a reaction to a draft law proposed by a member of Prime Minister Tony Blair's ruling Labour Party, which seeks to ban fox hunting.

But it quickly snowballed to include other lobby groups outraged by recent government decisions concerning rural living, such as the government's de-cision to ban beef on the bone to prevent the spread of "mad cow" disease and a commitment to enshrine the public's 'right to roam' on private land,

As the Observer newspaper noted: Everyone's going to town on their own hobby horse.

Agriculture Minister Jack Cunningham asserted that sinister "vested interests" were masterminding the event and had "conned" hundreds of "decent county" folk." country folk.

Paddy Ashdown, leader of the Liberal Democrat Party, said, "This is about the preservation of a livelihood, not the protection of a pastime," Country dwellers also complained of poor public trans-portation and lack of local facilities like

GERMANY: Triumphant, Schroeder Seals Bid to Challenge Kohl

Continued from Page 1

with Tony Blair of Britain against Mr. Kohl, whom critics assail as being tired and tacking in inspiration.

"From this result it is clear that the voters want a change in the politics of Bonn," Mr. Schroeder said. The outcome of the September vote, he said, would be fought on the central question of the "modernization of the economy. society and the state."

The ballot represented a huge setback on two counts Chancellor

Europe's most durable states- longer than any other postwar political capital in the Lower Saxony vote by scheduling 11 public appearances on behalf of the Christian Democratic candidate, Christian Wulff.

First, according to the projections, his party slipped badly amoog Lower Sax-ony's 5.9 million voters, despite Mr. Kohl's involvement, with I percentage point less of the vote than its 36.4 percent four years ago. 'Kohl campaigned and

Kohl lost. He could lose again next fall," said Gerhard Glogowski, the Lower Saxony interior minister, who would replace Mr. Schroeder as state premier here if he were to ecome chancellor.

lost badly to Mr. Kobl in naof Mr. Schroeder.

In the September vote, Mr. boss of the party machine -Kohl will be campaigning for seeking behind-the-scenes inhis fifth successive term and a place in history as the German Mr. Schroeder campaigns to leader who oversaw Ger- transform his traditionally Free Democrats crossed the 5 many's rennification, served high showings as the most

equal stature whose popularity far outstrips that of Mr. Kohl.

less a handicap to him than

of consensus politics. That

terest groups and opposition politicians to bury Mr.

Schaeuble's plan to overhaul

the economy with a radical reform of the tax system.

Paralyzed below the waist

man, who had iovested mucb German leader and led Europe into a new millennium united in large part by a single currency, the euro. Mr. Kohl can only hope

that, as in the last federal vote four years ago, that his popularity will resurge as the campaign unfolds. But the vote Sunday will almost certainly strengthen dissident voices within the Christian Democrats demanding that Mr. Kohl, 67, step aside for his anointed successor. Wolfgang Schaeuble, before

the national election in ptember. back for the left wing of the Social Democrats, represent-

fluence while the TV-friendly

popular single politician in Germany into a victory in September. There will be no conflicts betweeo us," Mr. Schroeder

said Sunday night, One issue that remained unresolved by early results was whether the Social Democrats had garnered sufficient support to rule alone in

Lower Saxooy or in coalition

with the environmentalist

Greens. Uoder Germany's voting rules, that depends on whether the Free Democrats - Mr. Kohl's junior coalition partoer - secure the oecessary 5 The result was also a set- perceot of the vote to enter the state assembly.

In early estimates, the Free ed by Mr. Lafontaine, who Democrats hovered around Second, and more worri- stands for far greater state in- the 5 perceot mark. Some esstrategists, Mr. Schroeder's oomic affairs than Mr. Social Democrats securing candidacy promised a far Schroeder, who seeks to project harder fight would a candidacy of Mr. Lafootaine, who and opposed to regulation. While Mr. Schroeder is set cent mark. That result, too, tional elections eight years to be formally nominated as ago and who has less of the candidate, however, Mr. Lasince Mr. Kohl depends on the formal popular touch formaine will remain as party the Free Democrats for his leader - and the undisputed current parliamentary majority, while the Social Democrats had been bracing for the possibility of an unruly coalition with the Greens if the

Contract Food and Management Services - Remote Site Management - Service Vouchers and Cards - Leisure Services

Successful Growth and Favorable Outlook.

Excerpts from Chairman Pierre Bellon's address to the Annual Meeting of Shareholders, February 24, 1998

1996/1997 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS Over the year, consolidated sales increased by 18 percent to FRF 29.5 billion, broken

Group share of Consolidated net income totaled FRF 540 million, a 34 percent increase from the previous year's Group share of consolidated net income before non-recurring items. At constant exchange rates, the increase came to 29 percent.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Last September 30, Soderho Alliance and Marriott International, Inc. agreed to combine their Food and Management Services businesses in the United States and Canada in a new company known as Sodexho Marriott Services, Inc. To finance the transaction, we increased our capital by FRF 2 billion in November by issuing 835,770 new shares at a price of FRF 2,400 per share. Shareholders responded very positively to the issue.

Sodexho Marriott Services, Inc. will be North America's leading provider of Food and Management Services, with more than 4,800 operating accounts, FRF 24 billion in sales and 100,000 associates. Its shares will be listed on the New York Stock Exchange. The merger is taking place in a positive environment and should be completed at the end

Separately, on October 31, Sodexho-Gardner Merchant acquired Marnott International's Food and Management Services business in the United Kinodom.

The creation of Sodexho Marriott Services, Inc. represents an exceptional opportunity for our Company. Although we led the Food and Management Services market in Europe and the rest of the world prior to the merger, we ranked only fourth in North America, far behind the market leader. With Societho Marriott Services, Inc., we will be number one in North America, thereby strengthening our global leadership.

* Once again, Sodexho Alliance has gained new scope and depth. Over a full year, i.e., in fiscal year 1998/1999, we will have around FRF 56.5 billion in sales, more than FRF 3 billion in operating profit and more than 210,000 associates. In five years, we have multiplied sales by five operating profit by nine and the number of

associates by four. * We have also changed our profile,

with Food and Management Services accounting for a larger share of our revenue stream. In 2000, this business will generate more than 90 percent of our sales and around 85 percent of operating profit. In addition, we are becoming increasingly international. in 2000, more than 85 percent of our sales will be made outside France.

* Our deb! has increased, limiting our ability to make new acquisitions. After three years of alfiances and major acquisitions - Gardner Merchant, Partena, Sodexho Marriott Services, Inc., Sodewho Alliance will now enter a phase of consolidation. During this period, vie will focus on developing internal synergy and enhancing organic growth:

 Synergy will be created through the cross-fertilization of skills and the development of economies of scale in the country operations, with the support of our global network. To do this, we will reduce purchasing costs, optimize restaurant working methods, negotiate international agreements with global suppliers, rationalize management structures, redeploy sales forces, forge agreements with global customers, eliminate redundant development costs, optimize new product and service development resources, and share IT development and training expenses. Throughout our corporate community, we will expand efforts to share and spread innovative ideas, management methods and quality programs.

 All our businesses enjoy strong potential for growth, especially Food and Management Services. We need to locus on organic growth, whose return on investment exceeds 50 percent. In-depth strategic studies undertaken in France, Italy, the US and the UK are helping us to increase sales and earnings faster. They are also providing methodologies that will be transferred to other countries. Thanks to steady, predictable growth in cash flow, we will recover our full investment capacity in a little more than three years and be able to make

* The current year will be one of transition.

Based on currently available data and in light of the capital increase, earnings per share should increase by approximately six percent in fiscal year 1997/1998. Over the next three fiscal years, earnings per share, after amortization of goodwill, are expected to grow by an average 20 percent a year.

Since our Company was founded in 1966, it has grown into an international enterprise, but its strategic mission has remained the same:

· First, to continuously improve client and customer satisfaction. This means listening carefully to their needs, diversifying our food services, developing a comprehensive offening of other services, and pursuing our strategic commitment to quality and innovation. Second, to develop our human capital. We encourage the emergence of entrepreneurs by decentralizing decision making and responsibility. We instill a corporate culture in that recognizes individual performance at all levels. We want all our team members around the world to take pride in belonging to the Sodexho Alliance community.

. Third, to meet the expectations of our shareholders. This means increasing earnings per share, keeping you informed and, to the extent possible, getting you involved in the ongoing development of your Company.

I am convinced that the mutual bond of loyalty and trust between our customers, our employees and our shareholders will secure our sustainable development long into the In today's global marketplace, we derive important competitive advantage from our inde-

As you can see, our outlook is lavorable. On behalf of the Board and yourselves, I would like to thank all of our many associates,

DIVIDENDS

The dividend for fiscal year 1996/1997 has been increased 35 percent to FRF 35.00 before associated tax credit (FRF 52.50 including tax credit). It will be paid on March 5, 1998. Total payout amounts to FRF 263 million, corresponding to 49 percent of consolidated net income less minority interests.



Sodexho Alliance worldwide leader in food and management services

For further information, please contact: Raphaël DU8RULE - Corporate Secretary Phone: +33 1 30 85 74 74 - Fax: +33 1 30 85 50 05 - Internet : http://www.sodexho.com

Opinion polls show that the Sept. 27 national election moderate factions of the left could be too tight for either On the floor of the pendence, our global reach, the quality of our teams, and our excellent financial position. whose professionalism, dedication and efficiency are each day helping to ensure Sodexho Alliance's success around the world.

Mr. Kohl's Chrisoan Bavarian sister party, the jority if their struggling junior aide said last week. coalition partner, the Free

without a strong margin.

could face trouble building an talist Green Party. A red-green alliance might need the former Communist Party of build a majority in the Democratic politicians in Western Germany.

would be a potentially unwieldy 'grand coalition' that spans the spectrum of Soout a small lead over the So- lin Republic" sometime next own borders.

SCHAEUBLE: Germany's Next Chancellor?

Without any pushing, Mr. Kohl then would be expected after an assassination attempt to step down and hand the job in 1990, Mr. Schaeuble's use to Mr. Schaeuble, his loyal Mr. Kohl or his trusted of a wheelchair has proven far friend of 25 years. Presiding second-in-command heading over a record 16-year Bonn's slow-moving system Bundestag majority, Mr. Kohl bars himself from a future assuring image of political system last year allowed in-terest groups and opposition compromise with ideological rivals. But as Mr. Kohl's parliamentary lieutenant and long-time heir apparent, Mr. Schaeuble has spent years working across the aisle with

Mr. Kohl's conservatives or the Social Democratic Party

Bundestag, where Mr. Schaeuble exercises his role to declare a clear-cut victory. as Germany's second-most voters pin their hopes on a powerful politician, talk of a grand coalition to break the Democracic Party and its Schaeuble chancellorship is two-year legislative gridlock out in the open. "In the event in Bonn by uniong modern-Christian Social Union, might of a grand coalition, he has izers in both parties, who find themselves lacking a ma- good chances," a Bundestag could then work together to

Neither Mr. Schaeuble nor Democratic Party, faus to re- Mr. Kohl rule out an alliance tum to Parliament or returns with the left. Both are careful current center-right coalition, anti-reform labor wing. official candidate.

Mr. Kohl formally anoin-Eastern Germany, the Party ignated successor in October of Democratic Socialism, to at their party's Leipzig convention, where Mr. Schaeuble Bundestag, pollsters predict. delivered an eloquent plea for Bonn's current malaise But any alliance with the re- radical labor-market and so- known as "reform fatigue." formed Communists would cial reforms. Significantly, The last remaining option option of a grand coalition.

Continued from Page 1 cial Democratic Party in September, it would furnish the chancellor of a right-left coalition — a job Mr. Kobl swears he would never take. from Bonn and its proximity to West European partners.

But with either the familiar the Berlin-based chancellery, Germany could project a recontinuity, signaling to its North American and European Union allies that its interests are unchanged. Mr. Schaeuble's faith in European integration matches the ardor of Mr. Kohl's.

Closer to home, a grand coalition amounts to a risky experiment. According to polls, nearly half of Germany's upgrade Germany's creaking

50-year-old economic model. On the other hand, a leftright alliance runs the risk of on the left, the opposition alition too loudly in fear of said. Such a formation just as Social Democrats similarly weakening prospects for the easily could unite each party's

alliance with their preferred which is the main reason why Left-leaning politicians partners in the environmen- Mr. Schaeuble remains an un- within Mr. Kohl's own party have blocked some of the chancellor's initiatives in the ted Mr. Schaeuble his des- past two years, raising the prospect that they could find allies within a grand coalidon, and thus prolonging

Placed at the head of a grand be anothema to many Social Mr. Kohl never specified coalition, Mr. Schaeuble can when he wanted his protégé to rely on his reputation as a leadtake over, keeping alive the er who speaks openly about the painful changes thrust on A Schaeuble chancellor- Germany by the end of the ship could prove critical for Cold War, reunification, rethat spans the spectrum of So-Germany's international cord unemployment and even cial and Christian Democrats. reputation. The next chancel-Germany's controversial de-And if Mr. Kohl's party ckes for will inaugurate the "Ber- ployment of troops outside its

INTERNATIONAL

Run-Down Installations Hamper Iraq in Pumping UN-Allowed Oil

By Youssef M. Ibrahim New York Times Service

BAGHDAD - Iraq's oil production system has deteriorated so badly during the years of economic sanctions that it cannot take full advantage of a recent UN Security Council resolution allowing Baghdad to more than double its oil sales, Iraqi officials and independent experts

At a news conference Saturday, Oil Minister Amir Mohammed Rasheed affirmed that point, saying that Iraq could export no more than \$4 billion worth of oil over six months, unless sanctions were eased to allow Iraq to buy new equipment.

The sanctions were imposed by the United Nations after Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in 1990, and are to remain in place until Iraq is found to be in full compliance with terms ending the 1991 Gnlf War.

The central issue is the destruction of Iraq's major weapon systems.

On Feb. 20, the Security Council raised the

to earn money for imports of food and medi-

One-third of the money from oil exports is earmarked for war reparations to Kuwait and others; another share pays for UN administrative expenses in carrying out the sanctions; the rest goes to buy food, medicine and other relief

At current international prices for Iraqi crude oil, Iraq could export nearly 3 million barrels a day to meet the new level authorized by the Security Council. But the poor condition of its oil resolution, the oil minister said: "Iraq has not infrastructure does not allow it to pump anywhere near that.

million of repairs just to bring its production

barrels domestically, and sells 100,000 to Jordan at one-third market prices in remm for keeping the Jordanian border open. This leaves little oil

for Iraq to sell abroad at market prices. Compounding the problem has been the decline in the price for Iraqi oil, from \$20 a barrel a few months ago to \$11.50 now. Mr. Rasheed said this meant Iraq would have to export 2 million barrels a day to earn \$4 billion in six months, and 2.75 million barrels to bring in \$5.2 billion.

Commenting on the latest Security Council rejected the resolution and it has acted positively toward it. However, we have emphasized that we Dilapidated equipment and severe shortages of cannot export quantities more than what amounts spare parts mean that Iraq would need \$200 to \$4 billion during six months because of the cannot export quantities more than what amounts production limitation, and the deterioration of

system up to minimal standards, experts say. And that would take at least a year.

In fact, although Mr. Rasbeed said Iraq now produces 2.4 million barrels a day, actual production is closer to 1.8 million barrels on

In an interview last week with the French newspaper Liberation, Thierry Desmarest, chairman of the multinational Total oil conglomerate, said the UN decision was meaningless unless the Security Council eased its sanctions. "If we don't allow Iraq to import parts to operate their oil installations, it doesn't help them just to authorize more oil exports," he said.

Thus, Iraq cannot count on higher exports to increase the supply of food and medicine for its 22 million people, government officials and oil

experts say.

The new resolution, backed by the United States, has angered some fracti officials, who dismiss it as a public relations ploy intended to embarrass Iraq.
Indeed, Iraq had warned the Security Council

that it would not be able to export as much oil as the resolution allows unless it was permitted to import parts to fix its facilities.

Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz wrote to the

BRIEFLY

ceiling on Iraqi oil exports to \$5.2 billion over six most days, several independent experts said.

months, from \$2 billion, in part to allow Baghdad

Of that total, Iraq consumes about 500,000

Of that total, Iraq consumes about 500,000

Of that total, Iraq consumes about 500,000

Of that total, Iraq consumes about 500,000 about 1.9 million barrels a day for both domestic use and for exports. industry experts said even that was onlimis

> President Bill Clinton and the State Department have said the higher export ceiling was meant to alleviate the suffering of the Iraqipeople under the sanctions. But Iraq says that in light of Washington's previous resistance to raising the ceiling, the new resolution was meant only to deflect some of the criticism that was building er Washington's threats to attack Iraq.

"There is a serious question of how much more oil can Iraq pump," said Peter Gignoux, inter-national energy director for Smith Barney in Lon-

"Can Iraq go back to its levels of 1990, when it produced well over 3 million barrels every day? The answer to that, at this stage, is absolutely not, certainly not without major investments, which the United Nations will have to authorize.

IRAQ: Misgivings Were Rife

Continued from Page 1

The president's senior advisers uniformly insist that Mr. Clinton did not waver from his decision to launch the largest military operation of his presidency if Saddam Hussein failed to halt obstruction of inspectors from the UN Special Commission. But several advisers said Mr. Clinton's foreboding grew as he focused on the costs and risks of a bomhing campaign. Those draw-backs helped form the context in which he agreed to embrace the mission to Baghdad last month by the UN secretary-general, Kofi Annan.

Mr. Clinton "was concerned about civilians, all the time," said an adviser who took part in the administration's highest-level talks.

Others saw signs of a harsh backlash in the Arab and Muslim worlds. What a top official called a "David and Goliath dynamic" of sympathy for Iraq raised the prospect that American bombing might accelerate the decline of international support for the economic sanctions that have cost Iraq \$110 hillion in the past seven years.

The military preparations, drawn from the broad menu of the U.S. Central Command's "Operations Plan 1003," had settled months before on some form of aerial bomhardment. In three successive military plans presented to Mr. Clinton over three months, the scope and number of targets continued to grow. But over the same period, policymakers had difficulty reconciling the limits of military force and their range of ob- managed to agree on only the mildest jectives, and occasional trouble artic- response: travel restrictions on Iraqi nlating their goals. Alternatives were weapons scientists who, in any case. raised, dismissed and raised again in a never leave the country.

The Pentagon also prepared plans for Sandy Berger, convened a meeting of the campaign. two alternative ground offensives, one Mr. Clinton's cabinet-rank foreign of them code-named Desert Scorpion, policy team, the so-called principals The first was a drive to command the committee on Nov. 8. Of the dozen or so force would evolve from a demonstrastrategic port and oil fields of the south- advisers present, none dissented from ern city of Basra, much as the 24th the view that Mr. Clinton had to take dam, to denial of his capacity to huild Infantry Division (Mechanized) had firm action or risk the collapse of the nuclear, hiological and chemical done at the close of the 1991 Gulf War. inspection-and-sanctions regime that weapons. In the end, convinced that The second was a full-scale 'march on Baghdad' involving 200,000 to 250,000 troops.

The second was a full-scale 'march on constrained Iraq's rearmament since the end of the Gulf War.

Clinton team settled on doing 'signif-icant damage' to Iraq's nonconvention-

Those ideas, developed in part be-first," Mr. Berger told the president, al weapons and the conventional forces cause Mrs. Albright asked in November according to two participants in the most threatening to its neighbors. about the feasibility of unseating Mr. meeting. Saddam, attracted no support among the president's advisers.

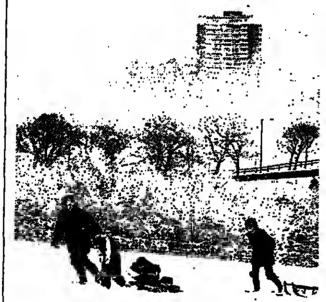
Bnt Mr. Clinton sent several thousand ground troops to reinforce Kuwait after force? If you Iraq shifted five mechanized and armored divisions, one of them from the the eye and Republican Guard, in January. Some say yes, then officials said they saw a ground attack as we can commence a diplomatic caman option should Iraq "drop an anthrax bomb on Tel Aviv," as an official put it, or take another step deemed to grievously escalate the war.

It did not come to that. With Mr. Annan's mission declared a success, the U.S. Central Command in Tampa dissolved, on Friday, the crisis action team that had waited around the clock for launching orders. But an air and sea armada remains in the Gulf, with 30,000 U.S. troops, and policymakers just emerging from the dilemmas of the suspended confrontation with Iraq are looking ahead already to the near-certainty of

The first signs of the crisis came last summer when Iraq began positioning air defenses in new patterns capable of threatening the American U-2 reconnaissance pianes. Months before Iraq started public warnings to inspectors, U.S. analysts concluded that Baghdad was preparing to shoot down one of the high-flying surveillance craft. Defense Secretary William Cohen sped the deployment of the Nimitz carrier battle

group to the Gulf on Oct. 1 to ucter and if necessary, punish such an attack.

By Oct. 29, Iraq had made clear its intention to escalate its harassment of intention teams. The government concurred Mr. Coben and the bulk of the concurred military leadership supannounced the expulsion of all American inspectors, and Richard Butler, chairman of the United Nations Special Commission, known as Unscom, said he to use force. would suspend inspections until all the Americans were allowed to take part.



MARCH'S LIONLIKE START - A family dragging sleds Sunday in a snowy Newcastle, England.

called the world's "sanctions fatigue,"

Council to Mr. Saddam's open chal-

lenge. The five permanent members

The U.S. national security adviser,

General Henry Shelton, chairman of

the Joint Chiefs of Staff, briefed the

president on the first of three formal

strike plans developed at intervals dur-ing the debate. It relied largely on cruise

missiles and was conceived mostly in

punitive terms. Already the plan, a ci-

vilian official said, was substantially broader than previous raids in 1995 and

1996 that the administration, like its

critics, had come to regard as "pinpricks

that were counterproductive" to deter-

ring Mr. Saddam.

Two days later, officials said, Mr.

Clinton met with Mr. Berger privately
and said, "Let's go forward."

That became the central gamble of the

government's Iraq policy in the ensuing months: that a convincing sbow of mil-

itary strength would reverse Mr. Sad-

agree fundamentally on the gamble's likely outcome. Mr. Berger, Mrs. Al-

bright and Undersecretary of State

posed otherwise, expecting that they would have to go through with the threat

Mr. Clinton's advisers came to dis-

dam's defiance.

prepared to

nse military

stare that in

Italian Aide Visits Tehran

TEHRAN - Encouraged by improving relations between Iran and Europe, the foreign ministers of Italy and Iran on Sunday called for a new era of cooperation between the two sides. Foreign Minister Lamberto Dini of Italy, the first Western cabinet official to come to Iran since the European Union lifted a ban on high-level visits, said the EU's past policy of trying to bring change in Iran through "critical dialogue" was over.

"It is not a crinical dialogue — we do know that did not prove successful," Mr. Dini said after a meeting with his Iranian counterpart, Kamal Kharrazi. "We are looking to an open dialogue on all matters of common concern.

Netanyahu to Tour Europe

JERUSALEM - Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahn will travel to Europe at the end of the week for discussions on the peace process and Israel's relationship to the European Union, his

office said Sunday.

Mr. Netanyahu will start his four-day trip in Madrid, where be is scheduled to meet Thursday with King Juan Carlos and Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar, as well as with Jewish European

"dual use" targets.

threat was now on the line.

colleagues that the credibility of the U.S.

sponded that there was not enough time

to prepare the American public, Con-

gress and allies, and both thought an

effort to raise the volume of the threat

might yet change Iraq's behavior. That

gress the team had been probing "al-

legations that Iraq may have used human beings as experimental subjects in chemical and biological warfare."

Iraqi propaganda emphasized as grounds for its move the American na-

tionality, as well as the military intel-

ligence background, of the team's lead-

er. Scott Ritter — explicitly undoing the deal with Mr. Primakov. Mr. Butler

traveled to Baghdad, and Iraq took the

occasion to declare a unilateral three-

month "freeze" on access to presiden-

pleted the major outlines of Pol-Mil Plan iraq, designed to build support and momentum for a military strike while leaving room for a diplomatic out. Commencing the drama's final act, the

president sent Mrs. Albright to key

European and Arab capitals for daily

repetitions that "the diplomatic string is running out." Mr. Cohen, he decided,

would follow with specific requests for

basing and military resources.

That week the administration com-

'of dragging

things out to

On Jan. 12,

"You don't wave a lot of aircraft strictions on other places deemed "sen-

The military was so sensitive about with the Muslim holiday still underway,

that planners presented to the president diplomats. The Baghdad government

estimates of the number of deaths that halted the work of Unscom Team 227,

might result from hitting each of the which specialized in uncovering the ef-

proposed targets. "If the target was in forts of Iraqi secret services to hide

such a place that it would result in the contraband. Mr. Clinton later told Con-

Within days, bowever, the deal began open," a French official said later, "that

to unravel. By Dec. 12, Iraq announced a doesn't mean we would have associated ban on access to an undisclosed number ourselves with an actual military strike."

Though well aware of what they views, that the threat could not be a hluff. of "presidential sites" and sharp re-

It quickly became clear, however,

president. He had crossed the threshold

on the use of force, but had yet to deter-

mine the military objectives or shape of

tion of resolve, to coercion of Mr. Sad-

The president's senior advisers insist that he did not waver from

his decision to launch a big military operation. But several said

paign to make the need for it less the possible impact of civilian casualties Iraq provided a rallying point for U.S.

deaths of a large number of civilians,

then we did not recommend it," General

George Washington battle group to join

the Nimitz. Together, including surface

ships and submarines, they had more

than the 288 Tomahawk cruise missiles

Mr. Cohen, meanwhile, was arguing that a true U.S. vital interest — and one

that could easily be explained in public
— was Iraqi weapons of mass destruc-

non. But attempting to use massive force to stop the proliferation of weapons was

seen by some in the military as a new

mission with inherent obstacles. A se-

nior defense civilian said "it took a lot of explanation by the military" to persuade

the White House and State Department

At the same time, the Russian foreign

minister. Yevgeni Primakov, was working to ward off a military clash with Mr.

Saddam. On Nov. 20, at a meeting in

Geneva with Mrs. Albright and their

French and British counterparts, he announced Iraq's consent for all Unscom

inspectors to return.

On Nov. 14, Mr. Cohen ordered the

Shelton said.

fired in the Gulf War.

his foreboding grew as he focused on the costs and risks.

American diplomats were stunned by around, if you're a great power, for the indifference of the UN Security show," said one of Mr. Clinton's prin
By late December,

for a meeting on the peace process with Chan-

Mexico Denies Priest Probe

MEXICO CITY - Mexican officials denied press reports over the weekend that the govcrument was investigating 40 foreign Roman Catholic priests in violence-plagued Chiapas state and may deport them.

"There is no warning or threat against foreign religious personnel," said Guillermo Jimenez Morales of the Interior Ministry. "We don't know of any investigations against foreigners at this

On Thursday, the Reverend Michel Chanteau, a French priest in Chiapas for more than 30 years. was deported after he was accused by immieration officials of being involved in political

For the Record

Scores of workers feared killed by a mudshide in a valley in the Peruvian Andes saved themselves by scurrying up a hillside, anthorities said.
"They are all safe," Jorge Alahma, civil defense
spokesman in Cusco, said after a rescue team flew

eaders.

On Friday, Mr. Netanyahu will travel to Bonn

over the area on Sannday and reported seeing the
workers stranded on higher ground. (Reuters)

cerned about protecting eight presiden-tial sites, and the French diplomacy was By late December, General Shelton cipal advisers. "You have to have a had brought a major revision of the intended to fash decision." has one spections there. intended to fashion special rules for in-

involved far more strike aircraft, in ad-U.S. intelligence had assessed that how many decisions still lay before the didon to cruise missiles, and the target Iraq was hiding several dozen Al Husset was broadened to include a wide sein missiles, a few of the longer range range of nonconventional weapons and Al Ahbas missiles, and substantial purposes of the growing U.S. military of Ramadan started at the end of Decem- not actually in the presidential sites. The ber. At meetings of the principals com- Clinton administration and Unscom sites could not become sanctuaries for contraband shifted in a "shell game"

Mr. Berger and Mrs. Albright re-ponded that there was not enough time By the first week of February, France perceived what an official called an "infernal machine" - the threat Paris supported was about to become the war it ed. did not want. To avent war, Paris probegan a peri-. moted a trip to Baghdad by Mr. Annan to od, a senior work out a compromise on the eight official said, special sites.

Mr. Clinton's team was skeptical, and in a meeting Feb. 6 the principals deget past Ram- cided to shift from the threat to final eparations to the actual use of force. When Mr. Annan met the permanent five ambassadors in the Security Council on Feb. 11, the U.S. chief delegate, Bill Richardson, rejected the idea of an Diana Crash Survivor

trip by Mr. Annan. "You can't go," Mr. Richardson told the secretary-general in a private meeting. "You can't box us in."

Everyone around the president understood that a trip by Mr. Annan would from the United States.

But although polls showed strong public support for unilateral action, the administration was chastened by uncertain backing in Congress and a possible foreshadowing of a divisive debate provided during a tumultuous "town meeting" with top advisers in Columbus, Ottio.

Deputy Defense Secretary John Hamre said last week that "most people were relieved" that they did not bave to nearly every official interviewed, he said be was 'not optimistic' that the new

deal with Iraq would hold up very long.
And what strikes many of the president's advisers is that the next round with Mr. Saddam will begin exactly where the last one left off; another probe. The threat of force was no bluff for the Americans, but for France that was not as clear. "When we said all options are for military force." for military force.

"God knows what's going to hap-pen," said a high-ranking administra-tion official. "That's our position."

Patten Assails Murdoch Over **Book Refusal**

Agence France-Presse

LONDON — The former governor of Hong Kong, Chris Patten, has accused the publishing magnate Rupert Murdoch of adopting double standards in the increasingly bitter fend over the decision by one of Mr. Murdoch's companies not to publish Mr. Patten's book.

HarperCollins, which is owned by Mr. Murdoch, abandoned the "East and West' book project after paying Mr. Patten a £125,000 (\$200,000) advance, reportedly because it criticized the Chinese regime. Mr. Patten is now suing for breach of contract. . .

In his first comments on the affair, Mr. Patten told The Sunday Telegraph of London from his home in France: "I don't see how you can be in favor of free speech in one part of the world and less keen on it in another." He was alluding to the campaign by Murdoch-owned newspapers in Britain against any tightening of the privacy laws there.

Mr. Patten said it had never occurred to him "that Mr. Murdoch's business links with China could be a factor in The French government had known

for some time that Iraq was most con-He denied any personal animosity to-ward Mr. Murdoch and said that the two occasions on which they had met "were significantly anmemorable enough for me not to be able to recall exactly what

In the literary and political worlds, Al Ahbas missiles, and substantial authors are taking sides on the issue, stocks of authrax, botulinum and nerve Former Prime Minister John Major, who Mr. Cohen began pressing to launch agents such as VX. But the illegal has a contract with HarperCollins for his In the next weeks and months, the that strike before the Muslim holy month weapons, U.S. analysts concluded, were memoirs, has said he will not leave the publisher. Other anthors, including Doris Lessing and Fay Weldon, have exmittee in December, he told his cabinet wanted to ensure primarily that the eight pressed reservations about remaining

with the company.

HarperCollins is said to be concerned that its long-awaited biography of Mao hy Jung Chang, the author of "Wild Swans," could fall afoul of Mr. Mur-doch, The Observer newspaper report-

Stuart Proffitt, the HarperCollins editor in chief who was Mr. Patten's editor, has left the company and has indicated that he may sue for constructive dismissal, The Sunday Times reported.

In an affidavit, he has accused the publishers of trying to make him tell lies" about the reason for refusing the book.

LONDON - The bodyguard who break the momentum toward war, and survived the Paris car crash that killed supporters of the "hard option," as some called it, instead preferred a "five membered more details of what minutes before midnight" ultimatum happened and plans to tell them to French investigators.

Trevor Rees Jones said Saturday in a statement released by his lawyers that he would be speaking to the French examining magistrate investigating the Mr. Rees Jones suffered severe in-

juries and was initially unable to remember details of the accident in which Diana, her companion, Dodi al Fayed, and their driver, Henri Paul, were killed were relieved" that they did not bave to carry out the military strike. But like interview with Mr. Rees Jones on Monday. On Friday it said the 29-year-old former paratrooper had answered every

question 'as best he can.'
'And yes, he can now remember most of what happened that night," The Mirror said.

Earlier this month, Mr. Rees Jones was reported to have returned to work with the security team at Harrods department store in London, owned by Dodi's father, Mohamed al Fayed. Mr. Rees Jones had earlier told French investigators he could remember nothing about the crash.

Dr. George Hitchings, Nobel Prize Winner, Dies at 92

Everyone understood, the administration's spokesmen emphasized in inter-

By Charlie LeDuff

NEW YORK — Dr. George Hitchings, 92, who won the Nobel Prize in Medicine in 1988 for pharmaceurical research, died Friday in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. He had

been suffering from Alzheimer's disease. Dr. Hitchings's research led to the creation ings and Dr. Elion developed compounds for of drugs to treat leukemia, gout, malaria, and disorders of the human immunity system, and that eventually made organ transplants sults.

Burroughs Wellcome Co., now Glaxo were eventually awarded the Nobel Prize in

North Carolina. For most of his career, he worked closely

with Dr. Gertrude Elion, and their work led to the development of important drugs such as AZT, used to treat AIDS. The two joined forces in 1944. At the time, drug research was done on a trial-and-error basis. But Dr. Hitchspecific diseases, testing them in vitro, and in animals, then watching for unexpected re-

Their work was monumental; but because For more than 33 years, Dr. Hitchings was they were industry scientists, they were often the chief researcher and biochemist with the overlooked by the Nobel committee. They

Wellcome PLC. in Research Triangle Park, Medicine, nearly 30 years after most of their

Cardinal Jean Balland, 63

PARIS (AP) — Jean Balland, 63, the Roman Catholic archbisbop of Lyon, died Sunday, just weeks after be was named a cardinal by Pope Jean Paul II. Cardinal Balland had been suffering from lung cancer and was hospitalized in November.

He was named a cardinal Jan. 18, and had been the archhishop of Lyon since 1995. He

was ordained a priest in 1961, worked as a seminary professor and served as bishop of Dijon from 1982 to 1988, and then as archhishop of Reims before coming to Lyon.



Cardinal Jean Balland,

BELARUS: Graffiti Case Tarnishes State Continued from Page 1

encourage its leaders to return to the path of democracy. Mr. Geremek cited the trial of the two young men as an example of undemocratic behavior by Belarus.

The men, members of an opposition youth group, were arrested in August, interrogated and placed in pretrial detention for six months. Mr. Shidlovsky's lawyer said his client was so severely beaten in detention that he had to be

bospitalized. When the sentences were handed down Tuesday, Mr. Labkovich was relthe archbishop of Lyon. atively lucky: He was sentenced to 18 worst abuses of the Soviet era."

months in a "strict" labor camp, but because of his youth the sentence was suspended. He was allowed to go home to his mother's apartment, but he must report to the police once a week and observe a 9 P.M. curfew, and is not

allowed to leave the country for two

years. He said he doubted that he would

be permitted to enter a university. Mr. Shidlovsky was given the same sentence, but it was not suspended. He was immediately driven back to prison

after the verdict. A U.S. State Department spokesmen described the case as "reminiscent of the

he George

Westernas .

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International Herald Tellement

THE INTERMARKET

President Bill Clinton and the San have said the nigher expondence to alteriate the suffering of the later the sanctions. But Iraq says that the sanction's previous resistance to minute. ashington's previous resistance to make a file of the criticism that are the criticism that are the criticism that are the criticism to affect the criticism that are the criticism tha cer Washington's threats to affect the There is a serious question of howman, translational energy director for Smith Bandy ale

Can Iraq go track to its levels of long of produced well over 3 million barelongs be answer to that, at this stage, is absorbed to the control of the contro attainly not without major investment of United Nations will have to authors to

Patten Assails Murdoch Ove Book Refusal

Avence France-Press LONDON — The former govene Hong Kong, Chris Patten, has are. the publishing magnate Rupen Mag of adopting double standards in the creasingly bitter feud over the den by one of Mr. Mardoch's company to publish Mr Patten book Harry Collins, which is own

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THE INTERMARKET International Herald Tribune **Continues** ads work on Page 13

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Don't Enlarge NATO

With Washington preoccupied by other events, the Senate is rapidly moving toward a momentous decision on NATO expansion. Though the issue has stirred little passion outside the foreign policy fraternity, the eastward extension of NATO onght to concern every American because it may damage the country's paramount security interests for decades to come.

There is still time for the Senate to weigh these risks and to reject a plan that is likely to undermine the very goals the White House insists it will achieve, including the advancement of democracy and unity in Europe.

Redrawing the map of Europe does not bappen every day. When it has been tried over the centuries, by treaty or force of arms, it has often led to devastating conflict. In promoting NATO membership now for Poland. Hungary and the Czecb Republic, and in creating an expectation of future invitations for other Eastern European nations, the Clinton administration is betting that several potentially harmful situations will not result.

That is a bet the country should not make, especially when the potential gains of expansion are so slight.

The clearest danger zone is Russia's relacionship with Europe. The political, economic and military stability of the continent depends heavily on wbether Russia completes its transition to democracy and a market economy. Any move that impedes or reverses that transformation is clearly not in European or American interests.

Yet that is precisely what NATO expansion may do. For the moment, Boris Yeltsin has grudgingly accepted NATO growth as the price Moscow must pay for harmony with the West and the financial assistance that comes with it.

But Bill Clinton and his aides mistake Mr. Yeltsin's acquiescence for permanent Russian acceptance. His successors may well prove less cooperaove. In Russia's volatile political environment, NATO expansioo could easily be exploited by nationalist forces intent on diminishing democracy and chilling relations with

Even under Mr. Yeltsin the prospect of expansion has taken a heavy toll. A

stalled in Parliament. With NATO forces likely to move hundreds of miles closer to its border, Russia has already placed greater reliance on its nuclear weapons as a first line of defense. Relations with Wasbington are deteriorating across a range of issues, from the handling of Iraq to the management of Russia's nuclear materials.

In exchange for these serious con-sequences, NATO expansion would bring no discernible gain. East-West divisions are evaporating and free markets are spreading. An increasingly democratic Russia poses no threat to its neighbors. This is not a picture that cries out for enlarging a military alliance whose core purpose, defense against the Soviet bloc, is obsolete. Even a majority of citizens in the Czech Republic see no need to join NATO.

It remains a mystery why absorption in the European Union is not the preferred way to promote unity and prosperity in Europe. It would do so in way that embraces rather than excludes Russia. There will be ample time in the future to plant the North Atlantic Treaty Organization flag farther east if Russia should turn threatening again.

Then there is the financial expense of expansion. The Pentagon recently came up with a new estimate of the cost. \$1.5 billion over 10 years. The number is laughable, clearly cooked to reassure the Senate as it approaches a vote. Only a few months ago the Pentagon calculated the cost could run as high as \$35 billion over 13 years. Two years ago the Congressional Budget Office estimated the price tag might be as high as \$125

billion over 15 years.

In giving the Senate the power to ratify and amend treaties, the U.S. Constitution expects more of the Senate than it is delivering on NATO. are than it is delivering on NATO.

There must be a serious, sustained debate about enlargement, not the rush to approval that the White House

The 50th anniversary of NATO's birth in 1999, Washington's deadline for installing new members, is hardly a compelling reason to force a decision that the country is likely to regret well into the next century.

-THE NEW YORK TIMES

American Power and an Envious, Angry World

WASHINGTON — Saddam Hussein is a recurring figure in Middle East history — the local despot who upsets the regional order by being too rapacious at bome and abroad. But while you cannot understand what's happening in this Iraq crisis without reference to some of the region's oldest political patterns, you also cannot understand it without reference to some more modern political trends namely U.S. hegemony after the Cold War and globalization.

It is only when you combine the medieval with the postmodern that you can fully grasp this Iraq story. Let's start with the question of why the United States bas virtually no allies against Iraq. There are a number of reasons, but surely a critical one is that America today stands astride the world with so much superior economic, technological and military power that it breeds two important reactions: resent-ment and complacency.

What does Iran call the United States

today? It's not "the Great Satan" anymore. Iran says America is "the Capital of Global Arrogance." Well, gness what? That's what the French, the Russians, the Japanese, the Chinese and the Arabs also call America behind its Iraq, so reluctant to cooperate with the

By Thomas L. Friedman

back. There is a deep resentment brewing out there against the United States. Part of it is sheer envy of America's recent economic success.

Part is a feeling that America throws its weight around unfairly, particularly when it comes to Arabs and Israelis. And part of it is because Americanization, from Mickey Mouse to Microsoft, has become a powerful, tempting and frequently destabilizing force, challenging every traditional society. France, Russia, China and the Arabs

are not going to go to war with America because of its dominance; they just want to make sure we Americans don't get to enjoy it. France is so obsessed about being a second-rate economic and military power compared with the United States that it would rather see Saddam keep some poison gas than side with U.S. efforts to confront him. Saddam has shrewdly tapped into this mood, present-ing himself as the Arab 'little guy'

standing up to the American bully. The flip side of resentment is complacency. Why are the Saudis and the other Arabs, who live right next door to

United States in confronting Saddam? In part it's because they assume that, as the world's overwhelming, sole superpower, the United States will feel compelled to confront Saddam whether the Arabs support America or not. So the Sandis say, "Why expose ourselves to retaliation from Iraq or anger from our own street when the Americans will take care of it free?"

Where globalization comes into the story is that it weaves together and diffuses revolutions in science, computing, miniaturization and telecommunications in a way that enables smaller and smaller groups and individuals no matter where they live — to reach farther and farther around the world, faster and faster, cheaper and cheaper. For those with good intentions it.

empowers them to shape their own world or to participate in the global economy more than ever. But for those with bad intentions, or with antipathy to the United States, it empowers them to lash out more forcefully than ever. So from one direction American be-

gemony fuels envy, resentment and even hatred of the United States, and from another direction globalization empowers the haters - by making more easily available the means of mass

destruction and by wiring the world in that a small bomb in the right place can-

create anxiety for a billion people.

That is why the main threat to Amer. ica today is not another hostile and perpower. There is none, for now. The main threat to U.S. and global statistics is the super-empowered individual the super-empowered angry manage

That is also why the proper an for the fraq crisis is not Vietnam cit Munich, It's the 1993 World Trade Center bombing, masterminded by Ramzi Yousef, the quintessential super-en powered angry man. Ranzi Yousel bad no political program, or ideology, otherthan hating America and Israel.

woman).

Saddam is Ramzi Yousef with part of a country. That is, Saddam is something more than the leader of a terrorist band but something less than the leader of a unified state. That's why confronting and disempowering him is both difficult and vitally necessary. Saddam may be a 13th-century tyrant.

but he is the epitome of the 21st-century threat. The good news is that Saddam Hussein can't be a superpower. But the bad news is that, in today's world, a lot of people can be Saddam Hussein.

The New York Times.

U.S. Will Hit Hard If Saddam Reneges on Agreement

By Samuel R. Berger

our position in unmistakable

terms. As a result, Saddam knew

that he would be hit, and hit hard,

if he did not comply.

Backed by two American and

two British aircraft carriers in

the Gulf, UN Secretary-General

Kofi Annan went to Baghdad.

We had made clear to him our

two bottom lines: total, un-

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The Special Group for the

Saddam unequivocally com-

pert manner.

ASHINGTON -- Al-Washing on though it may fail to satisfy those who want to use force against Iraq regardless of the context, Saddam Hussein's agreement 10 open all Iraqi sites to international weapons inspectors advances America's strategic objectives, either in the event that he complies with it - or that he doeso't.

If Iraq follows through on its commitment, the inspectors will for the first time have unrestricted, unconditional access to all suspect sites - including sites that the Iraqi government previously had declared offlimits. If Iraq reneges, we will respond powerfully, from a position of maximum strength internationally.

From the beginning of this crisis, the president has made clear that the best outcome for the international community was for Unscom inspectors to be given access to all locations in the country, including presidential sites and other security related installations from which

they had been blocked. The reason was simple: Despite continual harassment and deception by the Iraqi regime over the years, Unscom has been remarkably effective in locating and destroying Saddam Hus-sein's nuclear, biological, chem-will have operational control ical and missile capabilities and establishing a long-term monitoring system that makes it far more difficult for the Iraqi regime to rebuild that capacity.

The president also made crystal clear that if Saddam Hussein failed to let Unscom do its work, he would use overwbelming force to seriously diminish Iraq's weapons of mass will be observers only, and for

The writer is President Clinton's national security adviser. destruction threat and its ability all other sites, including those

previously blocked, existing to strike its neighbors. He sent Secretaries Madeleine Unscom practices will apply. Albright and William Cohen and Ultimately, however, as the Ambassador Bill Richardson president also made clear, "the around the world, not to seek proof is in the testing." approval but to explain to others In the days and weeks ahead,

Unscom will test Iraq's commitment. We will keep our forces in the region at a high state of readiness. Failure to allow the inspectors to go where they want, when they want, will result in the use of serious force. After two crises provoked by Iraq in four months, the time for diplomacy will be over.

The consternation of some that the guns are silent for now in part reflects an important debate about our strategic objectives in Iraq. Since 1991, the Bush and Clinton administrations have pursued a policy of comaining Saddam — stopping him from threatening a region of strategic importance to the United States.

This policy has been successful. For example, when Saddam moved toward Kuwait again in 1994, we immediately deployed forces to the region and warned him to move back. He did. So long as we have the national will to sustain that policy, it serves our national interests. It is strategically sound, even if aesthetically displeasing. Saddam's threat is blocked, even if he still blights the landscape.

Two alternative approaches have been suggested. Some countries want to pursue essentially a narrow disarmament strategy - "inspect and lift": Let Unscom finish its work (and

hurry up while you reat it), then lift sanctions (which deprive Saddam and his military machine of S15 billion a year) and reintegrate him into the international community.

But given Saddam's record, there is good reason to believe that this approach — which fails to require him to demonstrate his "peaceful intentions" by complying with all UN res-olutions — would simply allow him to refinance his territorial ambitions.

Some here in the United States argue that our strategic objective should be to remove Saddam Hussein from power. There is no doubt that the fraqi people would be better for it. We would gladly work with a successor regime that respects its neighbors and returns fraq to its rightful place in the family of nations.

But this also is a course with substantial risks and costs, A military campaign to remove Saddam would require a major commitmeet of ground troops, risk large oumbers of casualties and cost tens of billions of dollars. We would pursue it alooe. Once we fought our way to Baghdad, it is unlikely Saddam would be waiting at the airport. I am convinced the costs - in blood, treasure and political isolation - are not justified.

Alternatively, we could seek to achieve that result by proxy through support of Iraqi opposition groups. We have worked with the Iraqi opposition in the past and we can do so more effectively in the future. But before we embrace lofty goals, we must be sure this time that we are prepared for the ride. From Budapest in 1956 to the

Iraq in 1991, we have learned the dangers of starting something we were not prepared to finish.

This discussion about stra-

tegic objectives is healthy. It forces us to challenge our thinking and assumptions, But unless we are prepared either to invade under current circumstances or to dismiss the threat Saddam poses — two options I reject — Saddam will be with us for some time. In the meanwhile, we must maintain the resolve, alone if necessary, to prevent him from threatening the region - in other words, to contain him.

There are four pillars to this policy. Maintain sanctions. Continue to enforce a no-fly zone over the north and south-of his country to reduce the threat Saddam poses to his neighbors and his people. Insist that Unscom be permitted to do its work without conditions. Be prepared to reinforce each of these undertakings with military force.

It also means permitting the Iraqi government to sell some of its oil to buy food and medicine for the Iraqi people under strict UN supervision. Starvation is not a card we wish to play, nor to permit Saddam to play against us.

That is the policy we are pursuing. For seven years it has held in check the Gulf's most disruptive and dangerous threat and helped maintain stability in a region vital to our national interest. But, as President Bill Clinton said last week, whether that continues to be our strategy will be affected in no small measure by whether this agreement is honored.

The Washington Post.

Mexico's Drug Problem fully cooperating. The law mandates

The Clinton administration does no favor to Mexico or its own credibility by certifying that Mexico is "fully cooperating" in the fight against drug trafficking. Compounding the damage. the White House drug policy director. Barry McCaffrey, fatuously claims that Mexican cooperation is "abso-

lutely superlative. A more truthful assessment can be found in the Drug Enforcement Administration's confidential evaluation. described by Tim Golden in Friday's New York Times. The DEA concludes that "the government of Mexico has not accomplished its counter-narcotics goals or succeeded in cooperation with the United States government." Mexican trafficking has increased, the DEA notes, and the corruption of its enforce-

ment agencies "continues unabated." Though Washington finds it diplomatically inconvenient to acknowledge, Mexico has a chronic problem with drug traffickers who always seem able to secure the political influence they need to avoid arrest and prosecution. This drug corruption greases the flow of narcotics into the United States. Mexico's drug networks span the border, supplying cocaine, beroin and marijuana to American users.

Mexico must face up honestly to its drug corruption problem as it tries to create a more democratic and accountable political system.

The most flagrant abuses come from corrupt military and police officials who take payoffs to protect one set of traffickers at the expense of their rivals.

President Ernesto Zedillo's government has made efforts to reform drug enforcement, but with little visible result. Mr. Zedillo has not moved aggressively enough to clean up civilian police agencies and has relied too heavily on military officials, exposing them to the same temptations that led the civilians astray. A more vigorous cleanup might force a sbowdown with corrupt elements of Mr. Zedillo's Institutional Revolutionary Party, which would benefit Mexican democracy.

Meanwhile, it is misleading for Washington to assert that Mexico is

penalties, including reductions in for-eign aid and limits oo international lending, for countries found to be insufficiently cooperative. But these penalties can be waived in the interest of national security. That should have been done with Mexico. Certification is a clumsy tool for

encouraging better narcotics enforcement abroad. The annual review process, oow required by law, forces Washingtoo into difficult choices between papering over problems or offending otherwise friendly countries. It should be eliminated. But as long as certification remains on the books, the administration has a duty to report truthfully to Congress and the American people. It has failed to do so in the case of Mexico.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Other Comment

Overhauling Britain

Britain has embarked on the most ambitious overbaul of its political institutions in more than a century. Almost everything is up for grabs: regional devolution, the electoral system, the makeup of Parliament's second chamber, the rights of citizens

Not everything will be done; some reforms may prove half-baked, and the paradox is that such efforts to limit and codify the powers of the state are being made hy a Labour government which in other respects is widely considered rather bossy.

Yet the most remarkable thing of all is that the party which has stood, traditionally, for restraining the powers of the state is now implacably opposed to any and all reform. Indeed, Conservative Party, the nation's official opposition, has almost nothing useful to say about what amounts to a revolution in the way Britain will be governed.

Herald Tribune

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-The Economist (London).

Despite Its Clout, China's Army Stays Out of Politics

TAIPEI — As Jiang Zemin consolidates his position at the top of China's ruling hierarcby, a new mode of party-army relations is taking shape. In this new mode, the result of changes in the political arena and in the army, China's mil-

tential for poliocal influence. and the role of the judiciary. So far this potential has been realized only in part, but it has already contributed significantly to the smooth takeover of power by Mr. Jiang. It derives from several factors.

First is Mr. Jiang's relationship with the military. Lacking the ingredients that had given Mao Zedong and Deng Xiaoping enormous personal author-

Military Misperceptions

IF RECENT studies of the Chinese military mentality have got it right, then one un-

intended result of the patchwork

diplomatic settlement for the

Iraq standoff may be to reinforce

Beijing's instinct that America

is soft, that its will is shaky and

that its military capabilities are somehow less than advertised.

world saw a massive, well-or-

ganized use of superior force and

technology in the Gulf, many in

China's People's Liberatioo Army saw something less. That, at least, is the concern

of the China specialist and Rand

Corporation consultant James

Mulvenon, who recently stud-

ied the senior Chinese officer corps for Rand's National De-

"There are people in the

PLA that believe we could only

kill all those Iraqi tanks because

no one was in them. They think:

You use smart weapons too

much, you have no stomach for

melancholy is shared in Wash-

ington. A recent Pentagon study,

Mr. Mulvenon's informed

fense Research Institute.

fighting.

In 1991, where much of the

cannot count on the unconditional support of the military in possible crisis situations like Mao and Deng could during the Cultural Revolution and the Tiananmen demonstrations. itary has an inprecedented po-

In normal circumstances, Mr. Jiang will enjoy the military's support by virtue of his institutional position and newly woven political ties. But if be falters badly, the military might back a rival.

Such a switch was previously inconceivable. The military now has a greater capacity than ever before to influence the fate of the paramount leader, which makes him more ity — charisma, achievement amenable to the military's and connections — Mr. Jiang views.

"Dangerons Chinese Misper-

ceptions," agrees that, despite

all the recent military-to-mili-

tary contacts between Chinese

officers and their U.S. counter-

parts, the picture of America ap-

A widespread Chinese belief about U.S. weakness could trig-

ger miscalculation by Beijing.

One such error would be a wholly unilateral Chinese de-

cision to intervene suddenly in

North Korea, should that failing

state disintegrate and refugees

pour over the border into China.

Or a decision to attack Taiwan.

agrees: "Many Chinese of-ficers think, 'You would not

risk the lives of American boys

and girls over Taiwan."

Of the latter, Mr. Mulvenon

If, in the current crisis with

Iraq, the Chinese mistake

America's preference for smart

diplomacy over smart bombs as

a lack of national resolve, and if

indeed top. Chinese military

leaders were unmoved by the

overwhelming U.S. showing in

Tom Plate, commenting

in the Los Angeles Times.

1991, one can only worry.

parently is still fuzzy.

tional policy-making. Under Mao, policy-making was a oneman show; under Mr. Deng it was much more collegial, but he still had the stature to make major decisions. Mr. Jiang, in contrast, does

By Ellis Joffe

not tower over his colleagues, and he does not have supreme anthority on all affairs of state. As a result, the policy-making process is spread among members of the ruling group. The military is well placed to

This situation extends to na-

influence this process. It has leverage over a paramount leader who needs its support. It also has leverage over other top leaders, who, unlike their revolutionary-generation predecessors, do not have their own constituencies in the army dating back to the old days.

This influence is enhanced by the separation of the party and army organizations. Three powerful forces are at work: First is the decline in importance of the Communist

Party in the Chinese political system and its concurrent weakening in the armed forces. Second is the modernization of the armed forces and the ascension of military profession-

alism over political interests. Third is the involvement of the military in economic pursuits and the consequent loosening of the party's grip on military units.

This separation has not meant the end of the army's subordination to party leadership, but it has given the military the freedom to conduct its affairs in accordance with professional imperatives.

This, in turn, has solidified the internal cohesion of the army and strengthened the position of its chiefs in relation to the party leadership.

The military's increased ability to influence the leadership has not led to an expansion of

trary, its commanders have by the growing clout of eco-backed away from political nomic hureaucracies and their entanglements and have focused more than ever oo professional pursuits.

There are several reasons for this. One is Mr. Jiang's dependence on military support, which ensures that he will not

stray too far from the army's

preferences. Another is a generational change that bas elevated to top posts professional commanders whose primary concern is overseeing the transformation of the Chinese Army into a mod-

Also, unlike the founding fathers - national figures who did not respect institutional boundaries — the new leaders tend to remain within the confines of their particular areas. This tendency is angmented leaders, increasingly a counterbalance to the military.

China's military has used its

new capacity for political influence with restraint. Economic affairs have been left to economists, which suits both the military and civilian leaders. In foreign affairs, the army has apparently limited its involvement to issues directly re-

as Taiwan. The Chinese military will continue to influence policymaking. But, short of a major crisis, it will stay out of pol-

lated to military concerns, such

The writer professor of Chinese studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, con-tributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1898: Spain's Liability

NEW YORK — It is now generally conceded that the Maine was hlown up by external agen-cies. But it is just as well appreciated that it will be impossible to fasten the infamy upon the Spanish government. When the report of the court of inquiry is finally rendered and the American Government makes just demands for reparations, it will be amply prepared to enforce them. But no farsighted person believes that Spain, with the force of the opinions of the nations of the

1923: George Ragged

earth, will deny her liability.

LONDON - Mr. Lloyd George, former Prime Minister, was ragged when he visited Edinburgh today [March 1] to deliver his address as Lord Rector. Students pulled his car along its political role. On the con- Princes street, and when he

reached the university they pelted the audience with leeks and flour. They also suppressed the organ recital and substituted the American ditty "Sweet Hortense" for Wagner. Owing to ceaseless interruption, the former Premier considerably curtailed his address.

1948: Manchuria Lost NANKING — Communist

Commander Lin Piao's armies are rolling over the Nationalist salient in the 'industrial power-house' of Manchuria today [March 1], and neutral observers almost unanimously agreed that the position there is as good as lost. The Communist victory. considered the greatest since the end of the war, adds one of the richest portions of the world to the Soviet orbit. Its loss is the most dangerous threat to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek's twenty-two-year rule over the Chinese subcontinent.

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are a turneuty Agrical party and the same Trang as the the distance that it may be in the distance of the state of Mark 15 to 1 That is also why the proper and for the Iraq crisis is not Vienas of Manich, It's the 1993 World Tade of the bounding, masterminded by P. Menting, masterminded by Ro Youse! the quintessential supreno polinical program, or ideology, on than nating America and Israel Saddam is Ramzi Yousef with R Saddarn is reason touser with a collection. That is, Saddar seemething more than the leader of terrorist band but something less the leader of a unified state. That he

confronting and disempowering has both difficult and vitally necessary Sadden may be a 13th century the but he is the epittime of the list con-threat. The good news is that Sath Hunsern cau toe a subabowa Bas had news is that, in today's world the of people can be Saddam Hussen The treatment Times

on Agreement

reatify, then Bey of Pigs in 1961 to page inch deprive iraq in 1991, we have leaded dangers of starting some We were not prepared to be This discussion about 18 year, and with the sales. tagic objectives is health forces us to challenge on the mo a record. Mi In believe ing and assumptions Burn a - which we are prepared enherone under current cucummun. a to demonto dismuse the threat Sale lintertiens tall UN tesposes — two options light. Saddam will be with using rimply allow time In the meanwhile, wa us termional

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Out of Politics

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1948: Manchura NANKING Commander Lin Piacist Commander Lin Piacist are rolling over the Nath Piacist are rolling over the Nath Piacist of March 11, and neural services almost unanimously that the position there is a lost. The Communities as lost. The Communities as lost. The Communities as lost, and the way of the constituted the way of the constituted of the way of the constituted at force of the considered the grade the end of the protocol the richest portions the richest portion is the richest portion of th ed. the soviet orbit is not called the Chiang ale or called the control of the co Lieva Chinese appointing shord Rector

HEALTH/SCIENCE

Tracking a Lethal Virus That Killed Millions

By Gina Kolata New York Times Senice

ASHINGTON — Deep in a freezer in a closet-sized room at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology bere are tiny vials of a of the most deadly viruses the world has ever where he studied microbiology. known, the influenza virus that swept the world in 1918.

The viral fragments come from the lungs of three victims of that epidemic: a soldier who died in South Carolina, one who died in New York, and an Eskimo woman who died in a village on the northern coast of Alaska. They may be all that is left of that terrifying microbe. But scientists treasure them for more than their historic value. If the virus strain ever emerges again, the fragments may be the crucial tools needed to save the world from a lethal epidemic.

Already scientists are analyzing the fragments, which may enable them to make a vaccine against the 1918 fln and to study whether current antiviral drugs would be effeetive against it, said Dr. Robert Webster, the head of the department of virology and mol-ecular hiology at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, in Memphis, Tennessce.

How the virus fragments were found is a detective story that began 50 years ago when a wedish pathologist came to the United States and became obsessed with finding the virus that caused the 1918 epidemic, and ended last year because a young molecular biologist working for the Defense Department had dis-covered bow to find viruses in the decayed tissue of dolphins.

The pathologist, Dr. Johan Hultin, now 72, and the biologist, Dr. Jeffrey Taubenberger, 36, combined their efforts to identify the 1918 virus that killed 20 million to 40 million people. Dr. Hultin produced crucial evidence when he traveled to a remote Alaskan village to exhume the body of the Eskimo whose sollfrozen lungs contained molecular footprints

OT since the Black Death of the 14th century had the world seen an epidemic like the 1918 flu, which killed 675,000 people in the United States, and 43,000 U.S. servicemen. About half of the deaths of U.S. servicemen in World War I were caused not by battle but by

Ever since that 1918 epidemic, medical experts have lived in dread that the virus would re-emerge and hoped that if it did, they would be able to recognize and fight it. But for that, they needed to know what made it so

Although the 1918 flu was the most dan-

demics seem in sweep the world every 30 years or so. The last one was the Hong Kong flu in 1968, making the current effort particularly urgent, some say.

Dr. Hultin had been fascinated with the 1918 flu for most of his career. He came to the clear liquid containing irreplaceable mole- and later wrote his master's thesis on in-United States from his native Sweden in 1949 cules. They are submicroscopic sbards of one fluenza epidemics at the University of lowa,

In 1950, while at the university in Iowa, Dr. Hultin overheard a visiting virologist say that the only hope of understanding the 1918 flu would be to find the virus in the bodies of victims who might have been buried in permafrost, ground so cold it never thawed. Dr. Hultin saw an opportunity. The summer before, he had driven to Alaska for adventure and met a paleontologist, working with him in a search for bones of prehistoric horses. Dr. Hultin contacted the paleontologist and, through him, was put in contact with Lutheran missionaries who helped him get church records from Alaskan villages in 1918. The records, Dr. Hultin said, told him who died, what they died from, how fast they died, and where they were buried."

Then be found the permafrost line on a map and found three villages that filled his criteria. In 1951, with some money from the university, he made a trip to Alaska looking for frozen flu victims. The first two gravesites he visited were unsuitable, he said. The ground had thawed in the 33 years since the 1918 flu. But the third site, in the village of Brevig on the Seward Peninsula, seemed ideal,

Eighty people lived there in 1918, and when the flu struck, 72 died in one week. Missionaries buried them in a mass grave marked with two large wooden crosses.

Dr. Hultin got pemussion from village authorities to exhume the bodies. He began to dig, working 16 to 18 hours a day, thawing the ground by building fires on it. When he had dug down six feet, he said, he found the body of a little girl. She had "beautiful black braided hair and a beautiful dress on," Dr. Hultin said. He called three colleagues at lowa State, who flew into Brevig to help. Together, they enlarged the bole Dr. Hultin had dug and removed lung tissue from five bodies. Then they closed the grave and returned to lowa with their tissue.

"I worked a month and a balf on those specimens, using all conceivable ways of trying to revive the virus," Dr. Hultin said, "But I failed. The virus was dead. He eventually moved to California and practiced as a pathologist, continuing to dream of tracking down the 1918 flu virus.

But it was only last year that he was able to act. Retired and living in San Francisco, Dr. Hultin read an article by Dr. Taubenberger in March in the journal Science that led him to believe that molecular biology bad advanced



Ann Reid and Dr. Jeffrey Taubenberger at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology.

virus out of the people huried at Brevig. Dr. Taubenberger, the chief of the division of molecular pathology at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, in Washington, works on the campus of the Walter Reed Medical Center. His joh is to analyze ussue specimens for the Defense Department, A few years ago,

he was given the difficult task of looking for viruses in severely rotted tissue taken from dead dolphins to determine why they died. Dr. Taubenberger discovered how to find the viruses in the decayed dolphin tissue, and that gave him an idea: he might be able to use the same technique to find the 1918 flu virus.

VER since the Civil War in the 1860s, the pathology institute has been saving autopsy specimens, kceping them in ever-expanding warehouses. Dr. Taubenberger decided to search for the most likely victims, those who had died quickest, with the flu virus presumably abundant in their lungs.

He found 70 cases that seemed promising and requested their autopsy tissues. Within two days he got them, scraps of lung ossue soaked in formaldehyde and eneased in chunks of paratifin about the size of a thumbnail and about a half inch thick, Dr. Taubenberger and his colleague Ann Reid, took a razor blade and shaved off pieces of tissue from the paraffin blocks for molecular analysis. Within the first 30 samples they analyzed, they found one with footprints of the 918 virus. The lung tissue was taken from Roscoe Vaughan, a 21-year-old private at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, who reported to sick

call on Sept. 19, 1918, and died a week later. Last year, Dr. Taubenberger and his colleagues published a report of their initial analysis of the virus in the soldier's lungs in the journal Science. And that was the article that caught the eye of Dr. Hultin.

Dr. Hultin arrived at Brevig last August, spoke to the village officials and got permission to dig, slept on an air mattress on the floor of the local school, and accepted the from birds, pigs, or both. So far, be said, the gerous in recorded history, influenza pan- enough so that it might be possible to get flu offer of four young men in the village to help virus does not look like a bird virus.

him dig. On the third day, at 3 P.M., Dr. Hultin said, they came upon the first body, six feet down. But the ossue had rotted, which Dr. Hultin said he suspected was a consequences of his digging in 1951. The next day, at a depth of its digging in the property of the property of the soft tissue left on them. One, the body of an inelation in testosterone and Five vears ago. obese woman, was particularly well pre-

I sat on this pail and saw this woman.

Dr. Hultin said. Soe was in a state of good preservation, her lungs were good. And 1 knew that this is where the virus would be."

Dr. Hultin removed her lungs and also took tissue from the lungs of the three other vic-tims, even though he doubted that their decaying tissue would contain virus particles. He put the ussues in a preservative and closed the grave.

In the meantime, Dr. Taubenberger and his colleagues had found fragments of the flu that they had ordered from the warehouse. This was from a 30-year-old man, Private James Downs, who died of the flu in Camp Upton, New York, on Sept. 26, 1918, three days after be became ill.

Now, Dr. Taubenberger and his colleagues have virtually completed analyzing one of the virus's 10 genes, the hemagglutinin gene. The virus uses the gene to make a protein that allows it to stick to the surface of lung cells, Dr. Taubenberger said. One hypothesis, based on what bappens with some flu viruses that strike birds, is that the 1918 flu became deadly because a particular area of the hemagglutinin gene, the cleavage site, was altered. But Dr. Taubenberger saw no such alteratioo. "Our goal is to get the sequence of all of the genes." He says be thinks there will be evidence in the genes that also hopes that by comparing the genetic sequence of the 1918 flu virus to other viruses that infect birds and pigs, scientists will

Fighting The Process Of Aging

By Susan Okie Washington Post Service

ASHINGTON — Elmer M. Cranton is putting his trust in hormones. Like plenty of other 65 year olds, he doesn't look forward to old age - but as a physician, he has decided to fight back. He says he has read most of the medical literature on growth hormone. DHEA, melatonin and a handful of other hormones --- chemical messengers naturally produced by the body - that have recently been promoted as "anu-aging" treatments.

"I was impressed by it - impressed that it was safe, impressed that it would do some good to slow the aging process," he said.

So, about five years ago, Dr. Cranton began taking low doses of growth hormone, an expensive prescription drug that must be injected several times a week. Since then, he's added four additional hormones to

pregnenolone.

Many scientists studying he started taking these hormones say it's far too low doses of early in conclude that they're safe and effective when taken growth hormone. for long periods by healthy elderly people. But that hasn't siopped Dr. Cranion, a Har-

vard-trained family practitioner who works in Yelm, Washington. He says he and the several dozen patients to whom he prescribes low doses of hormones in various combinations are

too old to wait for research to provide a definite answer.
"I don't want to get old," he said, "I encourage people to measure all these hormones [in their bodies] and replace them virus in another of the pathology specimens all" to the levels that are normally found in people in their 30s or 40s. "Like an orchestra, they all work synergisocally, one with the other.

Many ongoing studies are focusing on whether supplemenong certain bormones can prevent or ameliorate the unwanted effects of age - effects such as increased body fat, muscle wasting, thinning and wrinkling of skin, bone loss, sleep disturbances, undesirable changes in cholesterol and other circulating fats, reduced sex drive and weakening of the immune system. At universities and medical centers around the United States, scientists are tesong hormones - alone, in combination, and in conjunction with exercise regimens - in more than 25 studies funded by the National Institutes of Health. Similar studies are taking place in other countries.

"The biology of these hormones, and some of the experimental evidence . . . suggest there may be useful applications. Further research is justified," said Richard J. Hodes, director of the Nadonal Institute on Aging.

For estrogen, the best studied bormone, more than two decades of research have already established some clear benwill show why the virus was deadly. And he efits, and some risks, of hormone 'replacement therapy.

For other hormones, the benefits and dangers aren't nearly so well defined. Researchers studying their effects on aging say that some early findings are promising, but none has been proven to thwart the aging process and they caution consumers against trying out multiple-bormone combinations outside of

Pessimism Is Bad for Your Health

By Don Colbum

Washington Post Service ASHINGTON power of negative thinking may have a stronger influence oo well-being than the power of posiove thinking, a study by Ohio State University psychologists suggests.

Researchers found that the possible harm associated with a pessimistic out-- increased anxiety, stress, depression and ill bealth --- appears greater than the protective good conferred by an optimisoc outlook. Pessimism "may be the more crucial factor," they con-

"It may be more important that you're not pessimistic than that you are optimistic," said research psychologist Susan Robinson-Whelen, the study's lead author, oow at the Center for Excellence on Healthy Aging with Disabilioes at the Houston Veterans Affairs Medical Center. A related finding is that optimism and

pessimism are not simple opposites and pessimism is not simply the absence of optimism. In other words, a person who doesn't expect good things to happen may not necessarily expect bad things to bappen.

The study is part of a larger project investigating the effect of stress on adults taking care of a sick family member. The results were published in the Journal of Personality and Social Psychology. Researchers followed 224 middle-

aged or older adults for four years. About half were caregivers, providing at least five bours of care per week to a family member with a progressive demeotia such as Alzheimer's disease - a task that researchers called "an extraordinarily long-term, unpredictable and oncontrollable life stressor." The other half were comparable in age, education and income, but were not under the

stress of taking care of a mentally impaired relative.

Both groups were asked to fill out a quesconnaire called the Life Oriectation Test, a widely used psychological measure of optimism, and were interviewed periodically by psychologists.

Among both caregivers and non-caregivers, adults who scored high oo pessimism tended to report more stress and anxiety and poorer overall health a year later. But an optimistic outlook did not have as great an impact on wellbeing in the opposite direction.

Overall, the study found, those who speot a lot of time taking care of an ailing relative were more likely to bave a pessimisoc outlook than those who did not - evidence that suggests a person's outlook is affected by important life events. Some previous studies suggested that optimism was a stable personality trait - meaning that optimisoc people remain optimistic no matter what is happening in their lives.

BOOKS

GLORIA STEINEM:

Her Passions, Politics and Mystique

By Sydney Ladensohn Stern, 501 pages. \$27.50. Birch Lane.

Reviewed by Blair Campbell

S YDNEY LADENSOHN STERN, in the epilogue of her new book on the life of Gloria Steinem, jokes, "In biography, sock with the dead." Stern's subject seems to feel the same way about biographers. In exchange for granting almost 60 hours of one-on-one interviews, Steinem got to take a look at Siem's completed manuscript. She returned it with numerous deletions, altered quotations, and eotire sections rewritten, and when early review copies of the book were released with little evidence of her changes, Steinem sent sections of the manuscript to friends who in turn called Stern and roade suggestions of their owo.

Stern had accepted Steinem's comments where she felt they clarified certain facts or offered new material, but resisted giving in to the phenomenon she calls "history according to Gloria." The result is a richly detailed, highly favorable portrait of the famous feminist that bares just enough of Steinem's dark side to avoid being dismissed as a welldocumented fan letter.

"Gloria Steinem: Her Passions, Poliocs, and Mysoque" begins with the romance of Ruth Nuneviller and Leo Steinem at the University of Toledo in 1919. The couple married two years later and in 1934 celebrated the birth of their second daughter, Gloria, in Clarklake, Michigan. Ruth and Leo divorced in 1945, and, with older daughter Sue away at college, Ruth moved with her younger daughter into a rat-infested secood-story apartment in the house in Toledo where Ruth had grown up.

Despite a miserable home life -

friends as having a normal and enjoyable high school existence. She bad moved to Washington, where she fin-role of historian than biographer; as she teachers. After graduation, she went to India on a scholarship, and by 1960 she had moved to New York City and landed her first job in journalism, working on Mad magazine creator Harvey Kurtzman's new humor title, Help, As sbe found her journalistic voice, Steinem became politically vocal as well, pentung New York magazine's "City Politic" column, working tirelessly for George McGovero during his brief campaign for president in 1968, and convincing Norman Mailer and Jimmy Breslin to run, respectively, for mayor and city council president of

New York in 1969. Although Steinero resisted the feminist label for most of the 1960s, her support of liberal political causes, along with the progressive nature of her New York column and her status as a single woman making a name for herself in what had loog been a boy's club, drew the anendon of leaders in the women's

In 1969, she attended a feminist rally during which several women recounted the physical and emodonal anguish they had endured while obtaining illegal aboroons. Their stories had personal resonance - Steinem bad gotten an abortion in London just prior to her post-college trip to India — and she suddenly saw herself "not only as an individual confronting problems but also as a member of an oppressed group." Steinem recalls the event as a turning point after which the feminist cause consumed her, and she 100 slanted. began to tour the country, speaking out on behalf of women's rights. Over the Ruth had loog been addicted to sed-next three years, she became a central atives and was prone to hallucinations figure in the movement, and in 1972 she ington Post.

modern bidding style have opening lead to his partner.

Gloria Steinem is remembered by launched the first issue of Ms. as magazine for female human beings."

ished up at Western High School in discusses the feminist awakening of Georgetown; she was admitted to American women in general and Smith College, where her sister had Steinem in particular, the book gains gone before ber, with the help of strong momentum, and her writing - plodding recommendations from two of her and uninspired up to this point - improves dramatically. In the chapters dealing with Steinem's 1992 'Revo-lution From Within: A Book of Self-Esteem. Stern provides an evenhanded portraval of the recovery movement. though arguing against the movement's tendency to blame all adult suffering on childhood trauma.

Ironically enough, Stern attributes every character flaw Steinem exhibits to her mother's roental problems and her father's wanderlust. Such amateurish attempts at psychoanalysis frequently interrupt the narraove; in a chapter on Steinem's life io Cambridge, Massachusens, where she worked in 1959. Stern writes: "Although Gloria clung to a vision of herself as an outsider, it was a complicated outsiderness. She felt like an outsider, and at some level she wanted it that way." Stern suggests that Steinem's aversion to marriage stems from ber childhood love of Louisa May Alcott, and she argues that only "possession hy an alien force" could have made Steinem attempt to get pregnant, as Mort Zuckerman believed she did during their three-year relacionship in the 1980s.

ESCRIBED in publicity notes as an ardent feminist and activist in the reproductive rights movement,' Stern seems to have relished the task of researching a woman she clearly idolizes, but those readers seeking a thoughtful, unbiased account Steinem's life will likely find the book

Bloir Campbell, o Washington writer and editor, wrote this for The Wash-

LANGUAGE

On the Lam as Dead Tigers Bounce

By William Safire

ASHINGTON — "Big-time Clintoo-Gore donor Ted Sioeng," wrote The Wall Street Journal's crusading editorialist, ''poured some \$250,000 into campaign coffers, nosy investigators."

On the lam means "running away" or "being a fugiove from the law"; bureaucrats would say in escape Meanwhile, at the status." The origin of the expression is status. The origin of the expression is in heated dispute among slang etymologists.

In The Random House Historical Dictionary of American Slang, J. E. Lighter defines the term as prisoo lingo for "an act of running or flight, esp. a dash to escape from custody." In his 1886 "30 Years a Detective," Allan Pinkerton, the first "private eye," explains an operation of pickpockets: After he secures the wallet, he will utter the word 'lam!' This means to let came lam, but the meanings are the the man go and to get out of the way as same.'

Soon as possible." Lighter cites do o

The this century, finally emerging as the

passive state of being on the lam. rooted in the dialect Scandinavian verb halls of the U.S. Congress in 1850). lam, as in the 1525 "his wife sore lamming him," meaning "to beat, pound, or strike," Mark Twain used it twice: "lamming the lady" in 1855 and "lam from the Financial Times about a pos-like all creation" in 1865, both clearly sible recovery of Asian stocks headmeaning "to beat." The suggested con- lined, with no explanatioo, "Dead Tinection is that to avoid a feared lamming ger Bounce.'

(related to slamming), one lams.

At the University of Missouri at Rolla, Gerald Cohen, a professor of foreign languages currently at work on a slang dictionary, has another theory. He notes the cant lammas in Eric Partridge's Dictionary of the Underworld. the lingo of costermongers in London and has recently been on the lam from now investigators."

around 1855, alternatively spelled nammou, meaning "to depart,

White House...

esp. furtively" and related to vamoose in the lingo of the American West. "Namase with its variant spellings," Cohen says, "was the standard cant term for 'leave/make off/depart/skedaddle.' I don't know why nam be-

The good news for investigators is lam, make o lam and take a lam early in that Yah Ling (Charlie) Trie is no longer on the lam. He has returned from his long sojourn in Macao lo face the Lighter speculates that it may be music (a metaphor first reported in the

A puzzled zoogoer sends in a clip

In 1985, the same newspaper quoted Singaporean investment advisers warning of a dead cat bounce: False hopes are stirred when a stock rises slightly after a crasb hut turns out to be lifeless. This odious variation of a bounce, or temporary upturn, is being applied here to other cats - the "tigers," symbolizing formerly ferocious Asian economies, oow turned by adversity into bruised pussycats. Thus, a temporary rise in the stock of

an Asian company that has recently plummeted is a dead riger bounce.

At the embattled White House. (Stop there. Embattled now means 'under attack, being assailed," with the feisty connotation of "engaged in battle"; beleaguered, rooted in the Old English leger, "camp, bed, lair," means "besieged, blockaded, surrounded, beset by foes" and is more defensive than embantled. Its first use was by John Milton in his "Areopagitica": In defense of beleagured truth.")

Start again. At the beleaguered White House, Joseph Lockhart, a spokesman for President Clinton, lectured hectoring reporters with: "I understand the competitive pressure that everybody is under, but I do think it's a significant lowering of standards when getting it first supersedes getting it right.' This was an allusion to a journalistic

adage that was taken up in the 1940s by Hearst's International News Service: "Get It First, but First Get It Right." New York Times Service

BRIDGE

By Alan Truscott

HE Young Guard of American bridge uses aggressive bidding methods that would surprise the stars of yesteryear. Jeff Meckstroth and Eric Rodwell have won several world otles and are expected to win more but have not revealed their secrets in print. Larry Coheo and David Berkowitz, who are likely to win world honors some day, have been slightly more forthcoming: Coheo has effectively developed the Law of Total Tricks, which guides players in deciding how far to bid in competitive

auctions.

by top players.

been provided by two new South wins the opening authors, Burt Hall and Lynn club lead with dummy's ace Rose-Hall, in "How The Ex- and takes a trump finesse, losperts Win at Bridge." It is iog to the king. Another club available from the authors at lead is ruffed, and South 6260 Grand Cypress Circle, cashes the spade ace. He theo Lake Worth, Florida 33467, leads a small diamond, and for \$19.95 including mailing. West must be alert. South's Topics include when to opening bid followed by 2 double, building successful jump to game makes it clear partnerships, match-point that he must have the tactics and conventions used diamond ace and the heart The diagramed deal indi-

West must grab the diacates the value of inserting a mood king, and return a bid to help partner find the diamond. Then he must make right lead. Two no-trump two heart tricks at the finish. following a take-out double But if he fails to take the diashows a limit raise or bener, mond king be will be endand South bids game. But played by the third round of East has had a chance to bid diamonds and the game will Some useful clues to the clubs, indicating the safest succeed.

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Mekong Gives Hope To Thailand

Bangkok Targets River For Tourism and Trade

> By Thomas Crampion International Herald Tribune

CHIANG KHONG, Thailand -Emerging from the mountains of Tibet to snake 4,200 kilometers through six nations before reaching the sea, the Mekong River has long been touted as a river road linking Southeast Asia to the wealth of landlocked southern China.

But the flow of goods and people has often been inhibited by horder closures and restrictive regulations put in place hy the mutually suspicious neighbors along the upper Mekong: China, Laos, Burma and Thailand.

The Thai government recently organ-ized a friendship caravan of 25 fourwheel-drive vehicles from northern Thailand across the Mekong, through Laos and up to southern China in a bid to assist mutual understanding as well as promote trade and tourism. The passengers included Thai government officials, members of the tourism industry. a handful of journalists and a few people who simply came along for the ride.

Speaking in Yunnan Province's hustling capital, Kunming, after the five-day, 1,200-kilometer (720 mile) drive, during which various vehicle parts were torn off hy potholes in the road, Thailand's top tourism official said that attracting tourists to the route was very amhitious.

'I know it is a little hit premature to develop this route for tourists," said Seree Wongpaichitr, governor of the Tourism Authority of Thailand. "But we consider this a kind of adventure trip. done to prove that this route can be taken and eventually get developed into something for tourists.'

Mr. Seree's long-term goal is seam-less travel among the Mekong nations, cutting back on the reams of paperwork now necessary to pass through border checkpoints. This would also allow Thailand to develop itself as a gateway to the Mekong River area.

Tourism, one of Thailand's biggest foreign-currency earners, is an industry earmarked to help lift the economy out of its current crisis.

But overdevelopment and the opening of such destinations as Cambodia, Vi-etnam and Burma have diminished Thailand's appeal, siphoning off visitors.

The number of Chinese tourists traveling to Thailand, which grew rapidly in



A Chinese official spraying disinfectant on a vehicle in the Thailand-Laos-China Friendship Caravan as it entered Yunnan Province. Bangkok organized the 1,200-kilometer trek to promote trade along the Mekong.

range foreign travel from virtually any travel office in China to a select set of 60 travel agencies.

One businessman who is all-too familiar with the limits imposed by the Mekong region's regulations is Tanomsak Serivichyaswat, a Thai entrepreneur who spent a month hauling a 40-meter (132-foot) boat overland from the Yangtze to the Mekong River in order to start a tour-boat service linking Yunnan to Thailand,

For three years, Mr. Tanomsak was prohibited from carrying any third-country tourists between Thailand and China, cutting out Westerners who were a prime target for his venture. As soon as regulations were eased

last year, Westerners accounted for nearly 20 percent of his passengers. Mr. Tanomsak said of his business: "I hope it will soon start making money."
The border between Laos and China,

which is periodically clamped shut, has now opened enough to allow Chinese tourists across to experience a muchcoveled trip abroad for a few hours.

Catering to these visitors, more than 20 wooden shops have sprung up in the Lao village of Ban Boten in the last two the mid-1990s, came to a halt last year years, offering such household goods as Travel Association. when Beijing cut hack the right to ar- Palmolive soap. Close-Up toothpaste

and underwear. Smuggled across the Mekong River from Thailand, the goods are cheaper than in China. They are not subject to the same taxes, said Seuvane

Sayavong, a shop owner.

Trade across the border continues with truckloads of vines that the villagers cut from the jungle and sell to traditional Chinese medicine makers in Kunming. When China relaxed import regula-

tions a few years ago, used cars from Ban Boten created a traffic jam of northbound cars on the jungle trails that cross Laos. Subsistence farmers in the village made fast eash renting fallow rice paddies as parking lots to car dealers.

"It was strange to see so many Jap-anese cars here," said Pali Darawong, manager of the Lao government duty-

free shop at the border.

When Beijing tightened the border again, Ban Boten's traffic quickly returned to its former mix of cows and the occasional camouflage-green Sovietmade truck.

The region still has a long way to go to develop the infrastructure needed to welcome international tourists, according to Louis Fasshind, chairman of the Thailand chapter of the Pacific-Asia

"There are hotels, but they are not Hong," an assistant manager said.

very comfortable," he said, "This region will remain very much a niche market limited to adventure travel visitors for many years to come." But while there was hardly a decent

place to stay in the southern Chinese city of Jing Hong five years ago, tourists now have more than 100 hotels to choose from, including a handful in the three- and four-star category.

Tourists from all over China come here to walk along the palm-lined avenues and get a taste of the subtropical climate in Yunnan Province.

Chinese tour groups see the exotic plants growing in the botanical gardens, drive to the nearby Burmese border for a

few hours ahroad where they huy some jade and later stop at a park celebrating one of the region's ethnic minorines.

Despite the attractions, not all the expected tourists have come. Half-built hotels poke up into the sky, and the city's newest lodging, the four-star Tai Garden Hotel, had less than a third of its 172 rooms full in the days preceding the

Chinese New Year holiday.
"With the currencies falling in Southeast Asta, rich people prefer to spend 6,000 yuan for a trip to Bangkok

Aetna Gets Acquisitive

Insurer Has Its Eye on New York Life Unit

By Joseph B. Treaster

NEW YORK - Aetna Inc., one of the largest health insurers in the United States, is in discussions to huy the health-care subsidiary of New York Life Insurance Co. in a deal that would be valued at about S1 hillion.

An agreement to buy the unit, NYL-Care Health Plans, is expected to be reached within the next few weeks, people close to the deal said.

Spokesmen for Aetna and New York Life declined to comment on whether their companies were in negotiations But the people close to the deal said the talks had been under way for some time and were moving toward conclusion.

Aetna has been growing quickly through acquisitions, while focusing on health care operations and shedding other husinesses. One that has been for sale is Aetna's life insurance husiness.

Aetna is expected to use the proceeds of the sale of the life insurance business which analysts say would fetch about \$1.2 billion - to huy another health insurer, an investment hanker said.

"A number of targets had been men-tioned, including NYLCare," said the hanker, who did not wish to be named. At one point, the banker said, Oxford Health Plans Inc. was considered a possible acquisition target for Aetna. But Oxford has suffered sharp losses in the ias! few months, which made it a less

attractive target. NYLCare provides health care coverage to about 2.5 million people — about 1.5 million of them in managedcare networks -- and had revenue last year of about S3 hillion. It provides coverage in every state, but is strongest in metropolitan New York, the Wash-

ington-Baltimore region and Texas. It has been losing money for the past

two years, hut, even so, it could be attractive to a higger insurer like Aetna, said Douglas Sherlock, the founder of Sherlock Co., a Philadelphia research firm, because it could significantly add to Aetna's market share in some im-

portant regions. Greatet market share, Mr. Sherlock said, gives insurers more leverage in negotiating prices with doctors and hospitals. "If you have two competitors in a market, a merger is going to produce higher value to the acquirer than either company had separately, because of the added negociating power." he said. In discussing its future, Aetta has told

analysis that one of the most prized attributes of potential acquisitions would be large concentrations of customers. Concentration means fewer regulatory procedures than with widely dispersed customers, who are also often served by different kinds of operational systems that can prove difficult to integrate with

the systems of the acquiring company.

For New York Life, a sale of NYL-Care would be a way of focusing more sharply on traditional insurance, annuities and asset management - the primary goals of Sy Sternberg, who became chief execuove about a year ago.

New York Life, which has not yet reported financial results for 1997, had \$18.3 billion in revenue in 1996. The eompany also runs the Mainstay family of mutual funds.

Aetna, long a provider of traditional health insurance, became a giant in managed care in 1996, when it bought U.S. Healthcare for \$8.2 hillion. In 1997, its first full year with U.S. Healthcare under its wing, Aetna's revenue was \$18.5 hillion.

But absorbing U.S. Healthcare has been more difficult than anocipated. Aetna's third-quarter earnings last year were 16 percent short of analysis' estimates.

On South Korea's Horizon, **More Trade With North**

By Don Kirk International Herald Tribune

SEOUL - South Korea is on the verge of lowering the barriers that have blocked South Korean companies from investing in more than minor projects in North Korea, officials said Sunday.

The government "plans to radically simplify administrative procedures on investment in North Korea." the semiofficial Yonhap news agency reported.

Officials indicated the government's hopes for increased commerce with the North as President Kim Dae Jung renewed his call for exchanging envoys between North and South and holding reunions between families separated by the Korean War, which ended in 1953.

Mr. Kim, declaring himself ready "to respond to proposals for dialogue at any level," said that "a minimum amount of interaction must happen" hut set no conditions for raising the level of trade and investment. Mr. Kim sees an increase in commerce between North and South as a crucial first step toward reconciliation, in the view of observers

The government is talking about step-hy-step deregulation of economic contacts with North Korea," said Selig Harrison, a Washington-based expert who has visited North Korea a number of times. "If they implement what they say they are going to do, that will make a hig difference."

Mr. Harrison said Mr. Kim was approaching North Korea in a manner very different from that of his predecessor Kim Young Sam, who discouraged more than minimal contact.

"The question is how fast Kim Dae Jung can move," Mr. Harrison said. "He wants change early on in the economic field. He believes in separation of economic concerns and politics."

South Korea revealed its plans for sharply improving trade with the North on the eve of talks here Monday with a U.S. team led by Charles Kartman, assistant secretary of state for East Asian affairs. Mr. Kartman will discuss the next round of four-party talks in Geneva to South Korea.

on March 16 among representatives from the two Koreas, the United States and China, Mr. Kim's aides are believed to have suggested that they would not object if the United States wished to improve its own ties with North Korea, possibly even by recognizing the North Korean government in Pyongyang and easing trade sancoons.

Such an attitude on the part of Sonth from the stance of previous governments, which have always been suspicious of any suggesoon of reladons between Pyongyang and Washington as a ruse to undermine the U.S.-South Korean alliance.

Mr. Kim's advisers have reportedly suggested that the government may more than double the amount that South Korean companies can invest in the North from the current eeiling of \$5 million and also may ease restrictions for businessmen on travel to the North.

They cited the \$5 million ceiling, set by Kim Young Sam in 1994, as having discouraged all but a handful of potential investors, some of whom suffered heavy losses in hopes of long-range profits if North-South relations improve.

Another measure that might encourage investment in North Korea is a proposal for compensating business interests for losses in the North.

North Korean authorities, desperate for foreign exchange amid worsening food sbortages, are assumed to be eager for improved trade and investment with the South even though the North's inioal response to Mr. Kim's inaugural address calling for exchange of envoys was

Amid repeated denunciations of Kim Young Sam, the North has welcomed investment from Daewoo Group, South Korea's fourth largest chaebol, or conglomerate, which operates factories producing textiles and toys in the west coast port of Nampo. Other ehaebol maintain small plants that produce textiles from raw material shipped from the South. The finished products, without North Korean labels, are then sent back

And Now, EU Gets Down to Details of Euro Launch

By Barry James

BRUSSELS — With 11 nations claiming they qualify, the move toward a European single currency, the euro. faces a series of technical and political

European Union leaders will meet in Brussels on May 2-3 to decide which countries should be in the first group to adopt the currency, to set the rate at which existing currencies will convert to the euro Jan. 1, and to appoint a head of the European Central Bank, which will begin operations July t.

Before then, the European statistical office, Eurostat, will verify the figures card and script transactions. presented by governments Friday on their economic performance in 1997.
The European Commission, the EU's executive body, will issue its judgment March 25. And both the German Bundesbank and the French central bank are scheduled to review the figures independently to allay public fears that the data are false or unsustainable.

If the figures are seriously challenged, it could produce instability in the markets until the issue is settled, but EU officials said this was unlikely. They said it was virtually certain for poliocal reasons that European Monetary Union will start with all 11 candidates. Central bank heads have said they are ready

might use their huge gold stocks to keep the market steady has driven down the

price of the commodity. Once the lineup is established, Europe will emhark on one of the higgest product launches in history, printing 12 billion banknotes and 300,000 tons of

coins, while preparing the pub-lic for the changeover, which will take place in two stages: • From January, companies and individuals will be able to use the euro for check, credit

• In 2002, euro banknotes and coins will replace national curren- coins for the new currency. Only if the cies. There will be no ohligacion to use the euro before then. During the interim period, existing currencies will be considered units of the euro.

Most governments are awaiong the May summit meeting before launching advertising campaigns directed at the public rather than the financial market. One exception: Italy, which imposed a special tax to prepare for euro entry, has been at pains to enlist public support. It has been running a campaign based on Walt Disney's Uncle Scrooge, who had the idea of creating a single currency for

with a raft of undisclosed measures to Zar, who had to use 937 currencies to the meeting of EU heads of state at deter speculation hetween the time the countries are chosen and the start of Many practical details concerning the

EMU in January. The possibility they euro's introduction must still be worked out. At a roundtable organized by the European Commission last week, banks said they wanted to be compensated for the cost of handling, storing and insuring euros.

The commission insists that these costs must not be passed on to consumers. Yves-Thibault de Silguy, the commissioner in charge of the switchover, said he would

seek to promote a "standard of good practice" on many aspects of the euro's introduction, such as the dual display of prices or the exchange of banknotes and

commission found that good standards were not enforced by market pressure, Mr. de Silguy said, would the commission consider introducing legislation.

While much of the population re-mains ignorant about the single currency and many small companies have yet to make plans to adopt it, gov-ernments, central banks and the financial-services sector have accomplished a vast amount of detailed planning.

"We started our preparations in 1995 even before the Madrid summit," said Jan Michielsen, head of euro-planning

which it was decided to proceed with

ABN-AMRO Bank began detailed planning two-and-a-half years ago, said Ewoud Schuitemaker, a vice president of the Dutch bank. "It was a very major project," he said, "comparable to the efforts we made after the merger of the ABN and AMRO banks in 1991, which entailed four years to consolidate domesoc networks and hring everything under the same computer system."

As a result, he said, even though the bank will lose much of its foreign exehange business, it will be well placed to take advantage of new opportunioes in the euro zone, which will allow companies to trade seamlessly across frontiers in the world's largest market. If Germany has been a source of much

of the skepticism about monetary union, German companies have been among the first to see the advantages of the single currency. A Daimler-Benz AG spokesman, for example, said the company had never heeded the skeprical voices and had decided early on to adopt the euro as the corporate currency from Jan. 1, 1999. With most governments making it

possible for companies to report their accounts in euros as of January, Mr. Michielsen said he was optimistic that large companies would adopt the new the ducks of a distant planet called Baat the Belgian national bank, referring to
currency sooner rather than later.

CURRENCY RATES

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Chasings in Amsterdam, Landon, Malon, Paris and Zurich, Gaings in other centers; New York and Toronto rates of 4 P.M.

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Sources: IMG Bank (Austradom): Cero Investment Bank (Brussels): Banca Commerciale Indian (Milan): Banque de France (Parls): Bank of Tokyo-Milsubishi (Tokyo): Royal Bank of Canada (Toronia): IMF (SDR): Other data from the Associated Press, Bioamberg and Reuters.

By Steven Mufson Washington Post Service

BEUING -- China has unveiled plans to float a \$32.5 billion domestic bond issue in an effort to recapitalize its ailing banks and avert the type of financial crisis that has stricken many other Asian conntries. The money would be used to

resuscitate China's four giant stateowned commercial banks, which are technically insolvent because of about \$200 hillion in nonperforming loans, most of them made to state-owned enterprises.

Although the bond issue, made public Saturday, had been mentioned privately for weeks by Chinese economic planners, its size surpassed the expectations of most foreign analysts. It would be a major step toward buttressing the banking system, which a World Bank report last year called the "soft underof China's economy.

and their ability to compete in international financial markets.' the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, which approved the issue, said in a statement issued Sunday through the official Xinhua news

public confidence in state-owned

commercial hanks," according to

In January, the head of the Chinese central bank, Dai Xianglong, said more than 20 percent of state bank loans were nonperforming and 5 percent to 6 percent of those loans were unrecoverable.

But some analysts still warn that China must do more to repair a banking system laden with deadbeat loans. It also must change the lending practices that are driven by political considerations and ignore the financial risk and creditworthiness of borrowers.

Kenneth Lieberthal, a professor belly" of China's economy.

"The bond issue is very necof Chinese politics at the University of Michigan said: "It is not adessary to raise the credibility of of Michigan, said: "It is not ad-

state-owned commercial banks equate to simply provide the banks the U.S. Resolution Trust Corp., with capital to make them whole which worked out had loans from again. The key is on the lending side, because the banks have been lending for years to state-owned enterprises at government direc-

China Plans \$32.5 Billion Domestic Bond Issue to Bail Out Ailing Banks

"Money has been pouring down agency. It would "strengthen a black hole" in China's banking system, Mr. Lieberthal said. "Until you close it off, it doesn't make that much difference to put a little more money in the pot."

Recently, the government has moved to make it possible for banks to start using their own judgment when making loans, The government announced the end of credit quotas, which were used to channel or limit the flow of funds to certain industries and enterprises. In addition, banks were given the ability to adjust interest rates within a modest band to take risk into account, instead of simply lending at the same rate across the board. There also has been discussion of creating a special agency modeled on the savings and loan banking collapse of the 1980s.

The statement Sunday by the Standing Committee urged the four major banks — Industrial & Commercial Bank of China, Agricultural Bank of China, Bank of China, and Construction Bank of China to "effectively prevent financial

According to the World Bank. the four banks account for more than 90 percent of China's bank assets and two-thirds of all financial

Bnt preventing financial risk will be easier said than done when so few people are trained to assess risk and when proper accounting is rarely found at enterprises that apply for loans.

The bond issue is probably just the first part of a broad package of economic policy initiatives expected during the annual weeklong meeting of the Chinese legislature, when China's chief economic policymaker, Zhu Rongji, is expected to become prime minister.

The session formally opens March 5, but a plenum of the ruling Communist Party this past week probably has made the most important decisions already.

Other expected measures include a public works and infrastructure spending program to alleviate unemployment for workers laid off at state-owned enterprises; further layoffs at state enterprises; a streamlining of government bureaucracy with the abolition of major government ministries, and an expanded social safety net.

Economists have said a domestic bond issue is the best way for the government to raise capital for the banking sector. The volume of outstanding government bonds in China is fairly small, running at about 7 percent of gross domestic product, well below the 60 percent or so levels considered normal for developed countries. The new bond issue would equal about 3 percent

CAPITAL MARKETS ON MONDAY

Fears of Deflation Persist Even as Stock Markets Shrug Off the Asian Crisis

By Carl Gewirtz

PARIS - Money talks. And the message from the record highs set last week in U.S. and European stock markets is flation in January rose a scant 0.5 perthat the crisis in East Asia has come and gone with amazingly little worldwide

That message might even be correct. · For most onlookers, the initial impact has been only fevorable. The disruption in Asie has dramatically reduced demand for raw materials. The price of crude oil is down some 30 percent over the past six months, belped also by a mild winter. Industrial metals prices are also sliding. Moody's Investors Service Inc. reported that its metals price index was at a threeand-a-half-year low and 16.7 percent be-'low its year-earlier level.

While bad news for nations belonging to the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries as well as such ex-

porters of primary products as Australia, in Loodon said that it would be "obthe decline in commodity prices is great
viously guesswork at this stage to esservative U.S. policy organization.
figure being 20 trillion yen (\$157.29) news for inflation watchers in the industrialized countries.

France, for example, reported that incent from the previous year, the lowest monthly reading in 40 years - a contributing factor in sending the CAC-40 stock index to e record high.

Falling inflation pulls down market interest rates - long-term rates in all the major markets are flirting with modern lows — and the combination sends stock prices soaring. Not surprisingly, measures of consumer confidence are at near-record levels.

"There's a tendency to view weak energy and commodity prices as e kind of free gift," said John Lipsky of Chase Manhattan Bank in New York, "and to

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88 BadWuert L Fin 5%
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101 World Bank 5%
103 Brozil 5.2! FRN 67%
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117 Bulgarta FRN 67%
119 Mexico por B 6%
121 Turkey 8%

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194 Medca C FRN 6.718812/31/19
195 Credit Local 64/ 07/16/01
199 Crubu Elec Pwr 64/ 08/05/03
200 British Columbia 79/ 06/11/07
203 Ecuador FRN 64/ 02/28/15

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46 Brozil 49 Brozil L FRN 54 Mexico 55 Argentina 64 Brozil FRN

timate how big an effect the fall in demand in Asia will have on the rest of the

But Mr. Liewellyn predicted "a sig-nificant impact" on the industrialized countries, in which growth rates will fall well below what otherwise would have been expected. He also forecast "a substantial but not unhealthy slowdown."

Both experts said they expected the key U.S. interest rate set by the Federal Reserve Board to fall by at least half a percentage point from the current 5.5

Their predictions conflict with the view of the Fed chairman, Alan Greenspan, who reported to Congress last week that events in Asia were likely to restrain the need for a rise in interest rates.

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"The world economy may not have entered a deflationary crisis yet," said, "but I have yet to see any evidence to cootradict the idea that we are getting

He said that there was much excess supply and that its deflationary consequences were being transmitted in a re- capital in their annual reports. markably orderly way from Asia to the United States, Europe and Latin Amer-

Unaware of the urgency and fixated on the fear of inflation, he added, central banks are doing nothing to head off the approaching storm.

Meanwhile, the foreign-exchange market appears not to know which way to turn. Expectations are running high that the yen will weaken dramatically after April 1, the start of the new fiscal

billion) - to stimulate activity are derided by non-Japanese analysts as flagrant government attempts to push the Nikkei stock index above 18,000.

At that level, unrealized profits on securities holdings would greatly assist the nation's banks in reporting adequate

As a result, the dollar trades in a

rrow range in Tokyo. In Europe, the dollar is constrained by conflicting views over the direction of

Bond markets are also looking for direction. Activity in the international basis points. Underwriters said demand market was muted awaiting the outcome exceeded \$2.5 billion. of two huge offerings that are expected to surface this week: up to \$5 billion in debt from the World Bank and another overlook the fact that prices are falling because global growth is weakening."

It's become fashionable to suggest after April 1, the start of the new fiscal debt from the World Bank and another to offer this week \$100 that the worst of the Asian crisis is year in Japan. But almost daily rumors in John Llewellyn of Lehman Brothers over," said John Makin, an economist at Tokyo about impending government Bank issues 10-year bonds and the Fedmore than 12 percent. that the worst of the Asian crisis is year in Japan But almost daily rumors in \$4 billion from Fannie Mae. If the World three-year notes carrying a coupon of

eral National Mortgage Association sells three-year notes, bankers say there will be less conflict than if Fannie-Mae opts for a five-year issue.

Last week, Greece sold 51 billion worth of 10-year bonds through a global issue that underwriters said was abostly placed in Europe. The bonds were offered at a spread of 132 basis points, or

1.32 percentage points, above comparably dated U.S. government paper.
Sony Corp. also made a global differing of \$1.5 billion in five-year notes that were mostly sold in the United the next moves in U.S. and German States. Offered at a spread of 57 basis points over U.S. notes, the Sony paper ended the week trading at a spread of 53

In the high-yield market, the cityowned Moscow Telephone is expected to offer this week \$100 million worth of

Most Active International Bonds

The 250 most active international bonds traded through the Euroclear system for the week end-ing Feb. 27. Prices supplied by Telekurs.

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Austrian Schilling

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Asia-Pacific Expected Kalgoorlie, Australia: Australian

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commodity prices.

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Gold Conference. Speakars includa

Robert Champion de Crespigny, ex-

ecutive chairman of Normandy Min-ing and Jack Thompson, president

omy to report February consumer

Tokyo: Economic Planning Agency

Wellington: ANZ Banking Group

different types of deposits.

Annual meeting: Hyundai International Merchant Bank

Manila: National Stetistics Office to

Tokyo: Economic Planning Agency

to issue monthly economic report;

cipal economic Indicators of foreign

Tokyo: Bank of Japan to issue account balance as of Fab. 28.; Fed-

eration of Bankers Association of

Japan to issue data on bank de-

posits and landing for Fabruary.

Wellington: New Zealand tourism

and migration figures for January.

Bank of Japan to issue data on prin-

issue February inflation estimate.

Ltd. to release report on January

01/28/00 99.5373 4.0200 02/10/08 97.8072 4.3800 02/26/01 115.90 8.4500 04/25/08 101.0000 5.3290 04/25/03 115.0700 6.9500 01/31/08 106.2500 5.4500 167 France OAT 177 Baden Euro 192 France OAT 197 Spoin 207 France OAT 04/25/22 133.1250 4.2000 04/25/05 115,8000 6.4800 03/16/01 104,6200 5.7400 07/12/02 99,8200 4.5100 02/21/01 112,9800 8.0800 01/29/01 99,8750 4.2600 **Finnish Markka**

Dutch Guilder

172 Finland Serial s 714 04/18/06 115.2189 6.2900 French Franc

A schedule of this week's economic and financial events, compiled for the International Herald Tribune by Bloomberg Business News

111 FranceOAT 139 France OAT

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232 Bulgaria fiirb A
233 Shengai Ind Inv
234 Brazil L
235 Ecuador par
240 Brazil S.L. FRN
241 Poland FRN
242 Bayerische LB
243 Neth Watersbk
245 World Bank

The Week Ahead: World Economic Calendar, March 2-6

Stuttgart: Daimler-Banz sympo-

sium on corporate innovations.

Bocs Raton, Florida: U.S. Bond Market Association annual meeting. Thursday through Sunday Cancun, Mexico, and Havana: U.S. executives meet with top Cuban ministers and business officials at "U.S.- Cuba Business Summit." Wednesday through Friday.

Ottawa: Canada to issue December

ment to report personal income and

Honolulu: Alan Greenspan, chair-

man of the Federal Reserve Board.

World Bank

World Bank

Bankers Association of America.

Ottawa: Canada to issue Februery foreign reserve deta. Las Vegas: Robert Parry, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Sen

Francisco, to address the 1998 Com-

munity Reinvestment Confarence at

Caesar's Palace.

Lima: Peru to Issue consumer

gross domestic product data. Washington: Commerce Depart-

prices data for February.

spending for January.

04/15/09 75.0000 02/28/25 54.4577 04/15/09 81,9425 10/27/24 98.0182 10/16/00 100.3750 02/13/08 100.0000

Seouf: Ministry of Finance and Econ-Reinbek, Germany: Hans-Juergen Krupp, a Bundesbank council mamber, and Eddie George, the gov-emor of the Bank of England, speak Tokyo: Bank of Japan to issue supply and demand deta for money marat e reception to mark the 50th anniversary of the Bundesbank's

branch in Hamburg.

Thursday and Friday.

Frankfurt: Gordon Brown, Britain's Chancellor of Exchequer, speaks on Europe's response to global

Vienna: Central Statistics Office to Mexico City: Banco de Mexico to report the levels of the country's issua monthly unemployment re-

Budapest: Hungarian Central Statistical Office to issue preliminary industrial output figures for Jenuary. Rome: The Bank of Italy to Issue economic bulletin.

Stockholm: Statistics Swedan to issue January producer price data. Frankfurt: Bundesbank'e policy-

making council to meet. Nuremberg: Fedaral Labor Office to announce Fabruary unemployment rate. Rome: Istat to issua December retail sales data.

Rome: Istat to issua final consumar

Stockholm: Statistics Swedan to is-

sue February unemployment data.

Vienna: Central Statistics Office to

price data for February.

New York: Salomon Smith Barney Inc.'s Latin American Bank Confer-Washington: Commerce Department to report factory orders for Jan-

uery: Labor Department to release weekly unemployment claims.

Buenos Aires: Argentina's statis-tics department to issue trade data Washington: Labor Department to issue unemployment data for Februissue February wholesale prices da- Bry.

Bonds' February Setback Heartens Optimists

Bloomberg News
NEW YORK — U.S. bonds posted their first monthly drop in six months during February as expectations for an imminent Federal Reserve Board interest rate cut evaporated.

Yet for some investors, the decline has made bonds more attractive because there is still no evidence of rising inflation. That puts real yields — calculated by subtracting the inflation rate from actual

yields — at their highest since August.

"Rates are pretty high in the U.S.,"
said William Slevens of Montgomery Asset Management in San Francisco. Bonds are attractive.

Mr. Stevens said be booght Treasury boods last week, when yields on the 30year benchmark bonds finished at 5.92 percent, up from 5.86 percent a week earlier. He predicted that yields would fall again as inflation stayed tame.

The yields rose after reports on growth and manufacturing fanned concern that the Asian financial troubles woold not slow the U.S. economy as my began regular anctions in 1977. moch as expected. For investors, the

the month is now worth just \$9,880 representing a loss of 1.2 percent.

For investors like Mr. Stevens, the decline represents a buying opportunity, given that the inflation rate is at its west in more than a decade.

These are attractive yield levels to capture," said Vic Thompson of State

U.S. CREDIT MARKETS

Street Global Advisors in Boston. "Real rates are high." With consumer prices up 1.6 percent in the 12 months through January, real rates

are at 4.32 percent, their highest level since August, when concern that robust economic growth would spur inflation set off a monthlong rout in bonds. Then came market and economic tur-

moil in Asia, which helped boods recover and then rally as investors rushed to the safety of Treasury bonds. Yields on the 30-year bonds fell as low as 5.66 percent in January, their lowest since the Treas-

But the retreat in bonds since reflects

showing soaring consumer confidence and strength in housing and manufacturing suggested that the economy had lost little steam, and economists predicted that the employment report for February, due this week, would show gains in jobs and wages.

In testimony before Congress last week, the Fed chairman, Alan Greenspan, said that it remained unclear bowmuch the Asian turmoil would slow growth and that the central bank was still alert for signs of inflation, such as rising wages. For some investors, that means

the best gains may be over in bonds.
Philip Pauze of Pauze Swanson Capital Management in Houston said he was not going to bet on lower yields, given the strength of the economy. One of the top performers last year, he sold his long-term bond holdings in early January and now has most of his investments in overnight repurchase agreements, cash equivalents that yield around 5.58 percent.

We're going to stay in cash because we feel rates are going a lot higher than people think," he said. "We're in a capdecline means a \$10,000 investment in the few signs so far that Asia's woes are ital preservation mode right now. We 30-year Treasuries made at the start of curbing U.S. growth. Reports last week don't want to take such market risk."

New International Bond Issues

Compiled by Charlotte Sector

Issuer	Amount (millions)	Mat	Cour	Price	Price end prech	Terres
Floating Rate Notes	,					
Bonque et Calsse d'Eporgne de l'Etat de Luxembourg		2008	0.3	100.00	-	Over 3-month Libur, Noncollable, Fees 0.625%, Denominations \$100,000, (J.P. Morgan Securities.)
CADES	\$200	1999	1/2	99-998	_	Over 3-worth Libot.Reaffered at 99.964. Noncullable, Fees 0.05%. (Devische Morgan Granfet
Morgan Stanley Dean Witter Discover	S600 ·	2003	76	99.903	_	Over 3-month Libor. Noncollable, Fees 0.20%, (Morgan Stanley Intit)
Muenchener Hypothekenbank	\$100	2000	0.10	99.925		Over 3-month Libor, NoncoBoble, Fees 0.04%. (Lehraun Brothers Infl.)
Choop	TT.300,000	2003	₩3	100.00	_	Over 6-month Libor, Noncosluble, Fees 0.14%. (Cariple.)
Ford Credit Canada	ITL100,000	2003	Va.	100.00	-	Reoffered of 99.85. Noncollistice, Fengible with outstanding lessee, raising total moount to 500 billion fire. Fees 0.325%. [Credito Italiano.]
Fixed-Coupons						
Greece	51,000	2008	6.95	99.63	99.85	Over 3-month Libor, Noncollable, Fees 0.375%, (Lehman Brothers Int.)
NTL	\$400	2008	oper	open		Noncollable, Fees not disclosed. To be priced March 6, (Morgan Stanley Intl.)
Republic National Bank of New York	\$100	2001	99%	99.613	-	Sendomodily. Fees 0.50%. Denominations \$10,000. (Lehman Brothers Infl.)
Sony	\$1,500	2003	61/2	99.788	99.85	Noncollable: Fees 0.325%. (Goldman Sachs Intl.)
World Bank	\$100	2005	161/2	995%		Reoffered of 98. Noncollable, Fees 174%. (Memil Lynch Intl.)
Bardays Bank	OM500	2013	51/2	99.774	99.80	Cattable at par in 2006. Fees 0.45%. (Barciays de Zoete Wedd.)
Dexia Hypothekenbank	DM500	2005	444	орел	-	Nuncatioble, Fungible with autstanding issue, raising total amount to 1.5 billion marks. Fees 0.30%. To be priced March 5. (Coldinan Socies.)
Hydro Quebec	DM750	2008	54	102.289	99.50	Reoffered at 99.614. Noncollable, issue may be redenaminated in earos ofter EMU. Fees 3%. (Commercianic.)
Chester Asset Receivables Dealings No. 5	£237.5	2010	64%	99.60		Neacotlable: Denominations £10,000. Fees 0.325%. (LP. Morgan Securities.)
Coco-Colo	£150	2008	64	813.66		Noncolloble, Fees 0.40%, (CSFB.)
European Investment Bank	£200	2003	7	104.681		Reaffered at 103,056, Noncollable, Fees 1 W%. (ABN-AMRO Houre Govett.)
Export Oevelopment Corp.	£100	1999	7	100.901		Reoffered at 99.876. Noncollable, Fees 1/4%. (ABN-AMRO Hoore Govett.)
GMAC Canada	£100	2004	61/2	100.40	_	Reoffered at 98%. Noncollable. Fees 1 %%. (HSBC Markets.)
LW Rentenbank	€200	2005	67/8	101.153	_	Reofficred at 99.578. Noncaliable. Fees 17/9%. (Dresdner Kleinwort Benson.)
NTL	£2.50	2008	open	орел		Noncollable, Fees not disclosed. To be priced March 6. (Morgan Stanley Init.)
Rank Group Finance	£125	2008	71/4	99.065	_	Callable of par in 2007. Fees 0.40%. (HSBC Markets.)
Wellington Pub	£160	2029	6.735	99.9658	_	Overletty. Also a £51 million trunche paying 7.335%. Noncollable. Fees 0.425%. (Morgan Stanley Infl.)
World Bank	£1S0	2001	674	100.624		Reoffered at 99.4365. Nancollable. Fees 144%. (Societe Generale.)
Argentino	FF1,500	2008	10	100.95	100.00	Recifiered at 99.70. Nancallobie. Interest will be a 10% until 2001 thereafte 8%, issue may be redenominated in cures after EMU. Fees 2%. (Societe Generale.)
Dresdner Finance	FF2,000	2006	S	99.851		Noncollable, Fees 0.25%. (Dresdner Kleinwort Benson.)
McDonald's	FP2,000	2008	57/L	100.915	98.95	Paoffered at 99.29. Fees 2%. (Societe Generale.)
Vauban Mobilisation Garantie	FF1,500	2001		101.057	_	Reoffered at 99.87. Noncollable. Fees 144%. (Deutsche Morgan Granfell.)
Telecom Argentina - France Telecom	1TL350,000	2008	70	100%	100.15	Reoffered at 99%. Noncollable Interest will be a fixed 10% until 2000 thereafter 1½ over 6-month Libor. Fees 2%. (Banca Commerciale Haliana.)
Argentino	DFL500 ·	2008		100.95	99%	Reoffered of 99.70. Noncolloble. Interest will be a fixed 10% until 2001 thereafter 8%, Laste may be redenominated in euros after EMU. Fees 2%, (ABN-AMRO Haare Govett.)
CADES	OFL2,000	2008		101.47S	_	Reoffered at 99.80. Nancallable. Issue may be redepominated in euros after EMU. Fecs 2%. (ABN-AMRO Hoare Gavett.)
Rabobank Nederland	OFL750	2013		100.89	99.00	Recifièred at 99.19. Noncaliable. Fees 2%. (Rababank Infl.)
Aligemeine lypothekenbank	ECU1,000	2004	434.	apen		Nencollable. Fees 0.275%. To be priced March 2. (Dresdner Kleinworf Benson.)
Merrill Lynch	ECU300	2005		99.475		Nancskable, Fees 0.35%. (Merrill Lynch Infl.)
Norld Bank	NZ\$100	2000	7	97.97S	97.95	Serviannually, Noncollable, Fungible with outstanding lasue, raising total amount to NZ\$850. Fees Q.10%, (Hambras Bank.)

Last Week's Markets

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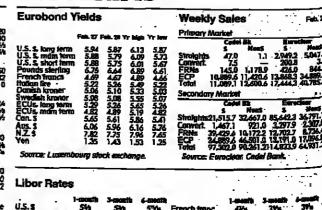
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Money Rates Japan Nikke 225 16831.67 16756.24 +0.45 5767.30 5.751.60 3.30 374 394 + 4.85 4,709,83 4,602,65

Euromarts

ored at 5.85. Yield 15.45%. Noncollable. Fungible v at to 8 billion and. Fees 0.35%. (L.P. Morgan Secu

Yield 11.57%. Noncollable, Fungible with out billion rand. Fees 0.25%. (Hambras Bank.)



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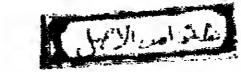
Brokers Put

lated Arab Emir

In lew Adherence!

Total many the same! on some services and to brilling the second

Allie is Open Field Fall c la ny fara 25 stre



will be less conflict than if famely opts for a five year issue.

Last week, Greece sold \$1 to exact bonds through the issue that underwriters said was placed in Europe. The bonds through the placed in Europe. The bonds to exact bonds due to the points about the said of 132 basis parably claimed U.S. government parably claimed U.S. sold made a government of Silver Corp. also made a government of Silver Corp. also made a government of Silver Corp. Sold in the life states. Offered at a spread of \$1.5 to prints over U.S. notes, the sone condent the week trading at the sold in the last three week trading at the sold in the last three week trading at the sold in the last three week trading at the sold in the last three week trading at the sold in the last three week trading at the sold in the last three week trading at the sold in the last three week trading at the sold in the last three week trading at the sold in the last three trading at the sold in the last three week trading at the sold in the last three trading at the sold in the last trading at the s

prints over U.S. notes, the Son tended the week trading at a speak basis points. Underwriters and be exceeded \$2.5 billion.

three-year notes carrying a combi

dicted that the employment room February, due this week word a gains in jobs and wages.

in testamony before Congress week, the Fed chairman, Alan (e. span, said that it remained under

Phrint Pauze of Pauze Swarcock coing to bet on lower yields, me strength of the economy. One of the performers last year, he sold his last bond holdings in early laming mis has most of his investment it one reparchase agreements, cash opra-

ital grever abon mode right me i days, I want to take such markand

By Richard W. Stevenson New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Debates about overhauling tax policy have never lacked vigor, but for the last 15 years they have been restrained hy the huge federal budget deficit, which has rendered talk of any sweeping tax reduction largely aca-

Now, the deficit is all but gone, and the tax-culting wing of the Republican Party is panuing at the prospect of big surpluses that could be returned to voters hy lowering

But they have already run head-on into another fiscal problem, the impending insolvency of the Social Security system, and the determined opposition of President Bill Clinton, who views large-scale tax reductions as an excuse to eviscerate oeeded the budget back into deficit.

As a result, a lengthy, high-volume political clash is likely to extend through this year and next and cuts as a good start, but their ul-

report evidence of possible money

laundering, as banks now must do,

Treasury and Securities and Ex-

change Commission officials said.

next three months, comes as crim-

inal prosecutors are stepping up their

investigations of securities fraud. At

least two brokers were charged with

money laundering following an FBI

sung in October 1996 that led to the

arrest of 45 stock promoters, com-

Catherine McGuire, chief coun-

pany officers and brokers.

The proposal, to be issued in the

into the presidential race in 2000, timate goal remains a radical over- not at the risk of repeating what reduce federal revenues by large

the very nature of the tax system. it enables the Congress to propose a single-rate flat tax or some form of omy's health. What the nation can

all these tax changes, said Gregory Jenner, the national director of tax policy at Coopers & Ly-brand in Washington. "Having said that, it's obvious the president

has a different agenda. They're going to have to find some common ground."

On an ideological level, the conflict is clearly drawn. Although there is a growing rift within the Republican Party about how hard to push this year for a big tax cut, many Republicans see taxes as the economy's No. 1 enemy, sapping the nation's entreprencurial spirit, leavgrowth of an intrusive, powerhungry federal bureaucracy.

Some Republicans see hig tax

Brokers Put on Notice Over Laundering

acrivity involving the possible con-

corning down the pike, Ms. McGuire said Saturday at the SEC

Speaks' conference in Washington.

by Treasury's Financial Crimes En-

forcement Network, one of the de-

partment's five law-enforcement

bureaus, a Treasury spokeswoman

said. It will be issued for comment

for 90 days, and Treasury officials

will review the responses before de- the proposal.

The proposal is being developed

"Brokers need to know this is

cealmeor of funds.

WASHINGTON — The U.S. set of the SEC's market regulation division, said the proposal would

Treasury Department will propose increase the responsibility of

rules requiring securities brokers to broker-dealers to report suspicious

Any talk of broad tax cuts, Democrats say, must wait until the country solves the looming problems of Social Security.

sales or consumption tax.

the less families have to invest in years, paid for by the elimination of thenselves, their children, their relirement, their health care and their communities," said Representative Bill Archer, Republican of Texas, who is chairman of the Ways and Means Committee. "When the government takes away the resources government programs; he even sees ing families working ever harder to make ends meet and feeding the themselves, the people will turn to hig government to solve their prob-

Democrats say they are just as

ciding whether to adopt the rule.

Money laundering occurs when

illegal proceeds are concealed, often

through hanking or currency trans-actions. A broker who defrauds in-

vestors might seek to mask the

source of this illicit activity by eye-

ling the investors' money through a

foreign broker, said Henry Klehm, a

senior SEC enforcement official in

New York, Illegal drug proceeds

can laundered through investments

ation, which represents 800 of the

largest U.S. brokerages, has been

working with Treasury officials on

The Securities Industry Associ-

made with a brokerage, he said.

encompassing not just the size and haul of the way the federal gov happened after President Ronald composition of any tax cuts but also emment raises revenue, starting Reagan's big tax cuts in the early with the abolition of the progressive 1980s, when the deficit spiraled out To the extent there is a surplus, income tax and its replacement with of control, undercutting the econ-

afford, they say, is a set of modest reductions and credits that address specific problems, like paying for child care and college. The administration

proposes \$24.6 billion worth of these narrowly drawn tax The more the government takes, cuts and breaks over the next five what it calls unwarranted tax breaks and loopholes.

Mr. Clinton favors tightening rules on the tax treatment of real estate investment trusts and annuities, and changing the way mulunational corporations are taxed on their sales abroad. All these proposals are streamously opposed by the industries involved.

The Republicans have not totaled the cost of their various tax-cutting proposals, but many of them would

ASEAN Members Urge the World: **Buy Our Products**

The Associated Press

JAKARTA - Finance ministers from the devastated economies of Southeast Asia have a message for the wealthy countries of the world; Buy Asian.

Finance chiefs from the Association of South East Asian Nations gathered for a one-day meeting in Jakarta on Saturday to consider proposals to ease the region's economic woes, and all agreed more help from wealthy nations was needed.

Hey, buy more from us, open up your trade more to Asian countries," the Philippine finance minister, Salvador Enriquez Jr., said in a plea directed at the United States, Europe and Japan.

The United States and

Europe have urged Japan to opeo up its markets to more Asian exports to help the re-gion, but Indonesia's finance minister, Mar'ie Mubammad, said European countries also should abandon what he called their "protectionist attitude."

The group Saturday also backed a system to keep a closer eye on the region's economies. The idea was part of a framework endorsed November by leaders of the 18-nation Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum.

amounts.

For example, one of their main goals is to eliminate the so-called marriage penalty, the quirk of the tax code that often makes the taxes owed hy a husband and wife who both work and who file jointly higher than the sum of those owed by two single persons with the same in-comes. The revenue loss from substantially eliminating the penalty could approach \$30 billion a year. although there are less expensive proposals that would reduce the penalty without wiring it out.

By comparison, the package of tax cuts included in last year's bipartisan budget agreement amount to \$9 billion this year, rising to \$35 billion a year by 2003.

Any talk of broad tax cuts, Democrats say, must wait until the country solves the looming problems of Social Security, which provides for retirement benefits and disability payments. And they view the Re-publican proposals for overhauling the tax system as nothing more than a tax break for the wealthy at the expense of the middle class.

Under oo circumstances can we take any steps that will undo the fiscal discipline we have worked so hard to achieve," Treasury Secretary Roben Rubin said. "We propose targeted tax cuts that are fully paid for, in the context of a balanced budger, to benefit working families. We believe there should be no tax cuts that are not fully paid for.

In political terms, the outlook is

marky for tax legislation this year. Heading into the midterm congressional elections in November, Republicans are eager to keep taxes at the top of the agenda, believing that tax cuts will be a winner on the campaign trad.

But the Republicans remain divided about bow to pursue their tax agenda, and they have not yet found a way to pay for the tax cuts they favor. Mr. Arcber wants to use half of any surplus for tax cuts. Representative John Kasich, Republican of Ohio, the chairman of the House Budget Committee, says Congress should look first to further cuts in government spending to offset tax cuts.

Seeing great political risk in op-posing Mr. Clinton's call to put the surplus off-limits until the problems of Social Security are addressed, some Republicans are eager to seize on another of the White House's initiatives, creating a \$65.5 billion pool from the proceeds of a setdement with the tobacco industry, and turn it to their advantage.

Instead of spending the money from a tobacco settlement on social programs like hiring more elementary school teachers and building and renovating schools, some Republicans want to designate any windfall from a tobacco settlement for broad-based tax cuts.

SHORT COVER

Japanese Official Calls for Spending

OfTA, Japan (Bloomberg) — Taku Yamasaki, an official of the governing Liberal Democratic Party, said Sunday the government should front-load public works projects at an unprecedented level to shore up the economy.

He proposed moving the start date for more than 82 percent of public works expenditures scheduled to begin in April 1999 to this April.

He also said his party would compile another economic stimulus package as early as next month. The package will include plans to use public money from postal savings and life insurance programs to support the stock market.

Pan Am Quits Financing Talks

MIAMI (Bloomberg) - Talks between a New York investment firm and Pan American Airways Corp. and Pan American World Airways Inc. have stalled, and the soonest the discount carriers could begin flying again is midweek.

The carriers said Saturday that the financier Carl Icahn was one of several potential investors with whom they were negotiating for the financing they need to resume oper-

The airlines stopped flying and filed for Chapter 11 bankrupicy protection on Thursday, a week after their parent company, Pan Am Corp., cut about 250 jobs, or 17 percent of its work force. The filings did not include Pan Am Corp.

Japan May Lift Air Fare Rules

TOKYO (AFP) — Japan is considering liberalizing domestic airfares in a move likely to set off a price war, a business daily reported Sunday.

A government transportation advisory panel has drafted a proposal to abolish a pricing system that requires airlines to keep domestic airfares within a preset range, the Nihon Keizai

Under the present system, the Transport Ministry allows airlines to set domesuc fares no lower than 75 percent of ceilings it prescribes on the basis of transportation costs, the report said. But while the proposal sets no limit on prices, it contains provisions to block sharp increases on routes operated exclusively by a single airline.

Pamodzi Plans to Buy Foodcorp

JOHANNESBURG (Reuters) — Pamodzi Investment Holdings said Sunday it would bid for a 50.1 percent stake in Foodcorp Ltd. through a 1.8 billion rand (\$364.5 million)

The deal calls for a three-part consortium led by Parnodzi and supported by FirstCorp Capital and Foodcorp management to take full ownership of Foodcorp. Foodcorp would then be delisted from the Johannesburg Stock Exchange.

The deal would mark the first time that a black-owned company took a controlling position in one of the country's largest food companies, said Andre Roux, chief executive of FirstCorp Capital.

India to Shoot for 7% Growth

The Asson inted Press

NEW DELHI — India will target a 7 percent average annual growth rate until 2002, the Planning Commission

The country expects private capital to play a major role in ensuring the growth of its gross domestic product, the commission chairman, Madhu Dandavate, said after re-

leasing the draft of a five-year plan.

"Because of inadequate capital, large unemployment and wide technological gaps in some sectors, India's economy should harmonize the roles of the state, the market and the cooperatives" to achieve this growth, he said, adding, "Foreign investment will be welcome, particularly in sectors with large technological gaps."

India's gross domestic product expanded 7.5 percent during the year ended last March 31, led by 7.9 percent growth in the agricultural sector.

stan and Turkmenistan to see wheth- eral pipeline projects to carry the ISTANBUL - A meeting of oilregion's oil to Western markets. er it could win political commitment producing countries of the Caspian for its pipeline proposal. Georgia Russia and Turkey have been vv-

Caspian Oil Talks Consider Turkey Pipeline

Sea started Sunday with cautious sup-

port for a pipeline through Turkey. But participants appeared divided on other issues related to the exploitation and transportation of the oil, especially regarding the role of Russia and the sharing of the Caspi-

Hoping to cash in on the oil and natural gas reserves of the Caspian, estimated to be second only to the Middle East, Turkey managed to had been invited. Russia bas Caspibring together Azerbaijan, Kazakh- an shoreline and is involved in sev- Baku-Ceyhan pipeline.

joined the meeting as another transil route candidate.

Foreign ministers said there were varying levels of support for the Turkish proposal to bring oil and gas from Azerbaijan's capital on the Caspian, Baku, to the Turkish Medi-

terranean port of Ceyhan. Foreign Minister Ismail Cem of Turkey would not say whether Rus-

ing for influence on Central Asia since the breakup of the Soviet Union, but recently Turkey has shifted to a more conciliatory approach, arguing that both could have econom-

c gains from the region.
U.S. oil companies are active in exploration and early production in the region. Washington has leaned beavdy toward Turkey for the transportation of the oil and as recently as last week voiced strong support for

SUHARTO: Indonesia to Seek Homegrown Solution to Crisis

Continued from Page 11

procedures; has removed state funding for expensive and money-losing projects ing he said, and prices are and has begun to restructure rising for both imported and its ailing banking system.

In spite of the steps, he said, cluding medicines. "the exchange rate of the rupiah continues to be weak."

Bloomberg News

bers of the cartel were willing

from Asia, rising non-OPEC

supplies and the prospect of

more than \$2.50 a harrel since

sponding to a call for an

such a meeting if its success is

Venezuela has said it will not

to adhere to its quota is the said.

agency, WAM.

reduce its output.

the beginning of the year.

For New Adherence to Quotas

Sunday that it would attend an nomie research center io emergency meeting of the Or-Kuwait. "There is no point in

ganization of Petroleum Ex- bolding a meeting if things

to cooperate and adhere to mines minister, Erwin Arrieta,

Crude oil prices have convening of an emergency slumped to their lowest level meeting to discuss lower

in almost four years, partly because of OPEC's November decision to raise production quotas by almost 10 percent, to 27.5 million barrels a day.

Weak winter beating fuel about 850,000 barrels a day

the doubling of traq's United should concentrate first on the

Nations-approved oil exports member states' commitment

have added to the oversupply to their output quotas before

April delivery rose 14 cents a day last month, according to

barrel Friday, to \$14.17. The estimates, or 300,000 more

price of the contract has fallen than under the cartel's quota.

The emirates' petroleum will not act alone to support minister. Obeid Nassiri, re-prices.

OPEC meeting hy his Indone- leased a joint statement Sat-

sian counterpart, Ida Bagus
Sudjan, said, "Contacts between the OPEC member

sian counterpart, Ida Bagus
urday saying they are ready to
cooperate with other OPEC
nations to return stability to

states are currently under the market, Iran's official

guaranteed," according to the end of an official visit to Saudi emirates' official news Arabia by an Iranian delega-

While some traders say Hashemi Rafsanjani, The two

luce its output.

'The need for an emeraction to prop up oil prices if meaningful efforts are made

sency meeting is obvious, but by quota-violating member

whether Venezuela is willing countries," the statement

prices will prompt the cartel countries expressed concern

to take action soon, others say over sliding oil prices and cur-

a meeting is unlikely because rem market conditions.

way, and the UAE welcomes IRNA news agency said.

On the International Petro- OPEC's output ceiling." leum Exchange in London, Members pumped about Brent crude contracts for 27.8 million barrels of oil a

porting Countries if all mem- continue as was.

demand, sagging demand above its quota.

again." Unemployment is growlocally produced goods, in-

'People's lives are becoming more difficult," he said,

Veoezuela's energy and

said his country supports the

Mr. Nassiri said, "OPEC's

proposed emergeocy meeting

considering a reduction of

Saudi Arabia, OPEC's

Saudi-Arabia and Iran re-

The statement came at the

tion led by former President

"We are prepared to take

largest producer, has said it

"It strengthens for a adding that he shared the dis- and sacrifices, has suddenly while," he said, "then sinks tress of housewives struggling to feed their families.

The president said the region's economic difficulties. which began a year ago in Thailand, bad struck Indonesia had been expected, threatening his economic achievements of the past three decades.

Since taking office in 1965, spectacular economic growth, United Arab Emirates Pushing seems that everything we ficulties. have built, with great difficrucial question," said Jas-ABU DHAB! — The sem Saddoun, an oil industry culty, sometimes with pain scapegoat," he said, United Arab Emirates said analyst with Al Shall, an eco-

been undermined." Mr. Suharto's speech was

marked by an unusual level of self-criticism and candor. In addionn to external monetary forces, he said, Indonesia' much sooner and harder than hardships were the result of "our own internal weaknesses," though he did not elaborate.

In what appeared to be a Mr. Suharto has presided over reference to recent riots in which the shops of ethnic which in the last decade has Chinese merchants have been averaged more than 7 percent attacked, he said Indonesians a year. Now, he said, "It should unite to solve the dif-"It is useless to look for a

TOTAL ALPHA INVESTMENT FUND MANAGEMENT COMPANY S.A. R.C. Nº B 39 615

Registered Office: 16, Boulevard Royal, L-2149 Laxembourg

On 12th Pebruary 1998 the sole shareholder of Euro Index Fund having requested redemption of all his shares the Fund ceased to exist with effective date 17th February 1998. The records and books of the Fund will be kept for a period of

5 years at the office of Nikko Bank (Luxembourg) S.A., 16, Boulevard Rnyal, L-2449 Luxembourg.

LUXOR INVESTMENT COMPANY Société d'Investissement à Capital Variable IOA, Boulevard Royal, Luxembourg R.C. Luxembourg B 27.109

NOTICE OF MEETING

Nouce is hereby given that an Extraordinary General Meeting of the shareholders of LUXOR ENVESTMENT COMPANY will be held at the Registered Office in Luxembourg on Monday 23rd March, 1998 at 2 p.m., for the purpose of considering the following Agenda. t. To resolve on the liquidation of the Company.

To appears a liquidator and to determine his powers.
 To suspend the calculation of the net asset value.

4. To suspend all subscriptions and repurchases of shares 5. To convene an Extraordinary General Meeting which will rule on the following agenda 1. To approve the liquidator's report and the statement of

being liquidated). 2. To approve the payment of the creditors and the distribution of the remaining not assets to the shareholders, after payment of the debts.

liquidation of Luxor Investment Company Im process of

3. lò appoint an auditor. 4. To convene an Extraordinary General Meeting which will rule on the folkering points:

| iii approval of the auditor's report,
| iiii discharge to be granted to the liquidator, the auditor and

the Board of Durators, had resolution concerning the final liquidation of the Company,

(iv) the keeping of accounts and company documents ** ** ** Proxy forms are available upon request in the Registered Office. In order in he valid, more forms duly completed must be received at the registered office on 20th March, 1998 at 2 p.m. at the latest. In order to attend the meeting, the owners of bearer shares are

required to depart their shares not less than live clear days before

the date of the meeting at the Registered Office. By order of the Board of Directors

GENERAL

THE INTERMARKET

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THE INTERMARKET Starts on Page 7

Personals

O HOLY ST JUDE, apostie and martyr. or not reliable and city in missions, Aber-dinsmin of Jesus Christ, faithful recreasor of all who snoke your special partnesses in times of need. To you t have recourse from the depth of my heer and humbly beg of you, to whom for their mises such most mises. The heat and humbly beg of you, to whom God has given such great power, to come to my assistance. Help me in my present urgent petition. In return, I promise to make your name known and cause you to be moked. St Jude, pey for me and all who knowle your ad-Humbly in need of your infercession. Amen. Thank you for answoring my prayers.

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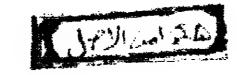
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At 28, It's Last Chance For Belgian Bike Racer

LOKEREN, Belgium - By now, almost no one believes in Wilfried Nelissen's chances for a comeback. The second comeback, that is. For the first one, his coach, his teammates, his many fans in Belgium, above all Nelissen himself, believed. Now, the list seems to have dwindled to just Nelissen, if even.

Listen to Walter Planckaert, the directeur sportif of Nelissen's bicycle team: "He's in the hospital again, another knee operation. He'll miss training for four weeks ooce he gets out. He had the operation Toesday. When he gets out, we don't know yet."

In other words, the rider will not begin training until April at the earliest, far too late for the spring races. No matter what his condition thereafter, his minor Palmans team will not be eligible for any of the hig races of summer and fall.

The season has just begun, but for Nelissen it seems to be over already. At 28, there are not many years left. 'It will be difficult for him," Planck-

aert judged. "Extremely difficult." A teammate, Gert Vanderaerden, a Belgian like Planckaert and Nelissen, was blunt. "It doesn't look good for him," he said.

They both spoke Saturday morning in Sint Pieter's Plein, a huge square in Ghent, before the start of the Het Volk race. Staged over 202 kilometers (125 miles), 11 short, steep climbs and stretches of cobblestones, the Het Volk opens the bicycle season in the north of Europe after a month of races in Spain, Italy and the south of France.

The Het Volk is a tough race, especially when the wind is blowing hard, as it was Saturday. As they say in Belgium, mainly when a Belgian finishes first, it takes a tough man to win such a tough race. Nelissen has won it twice,

The first time was in 1993, and he became the bright hope of Belgian bike racing at age 22. Everything seemed possible for a sprinter as fleet as he was. But the day after his victory, as he rode in the minor Kuurne-Brussels-Kuurne race, he crashed, hroke his collarbooe and missed the one-day classics.

Nelissen won the Het Volk again in 1994 and seemed ooce more to be heading for the top when he also won the Belgian national championship that June. But, a week later, in the first stage of the Tour de France, as he sprinted for the finish line with his head down, he plowed into a French policeman who had moved onto the course to take a photograph of the approaching riders.

Knocked unconscious by the crash at 70 kilometers an hour, Nelissen suffered a concussion and had to be hospitalized. His Tour was over, His first serious comeback began.

Was he shy now when the sprinting began?
"No, not at all," he said "It's all over

now." To prove it, he woo a race in Belgium that September and a few weeks later the Grand Prix d'Isbergues in France. "That felt good," he said. In 1995, he repeated his victory in the

Belgian championships and was wearing the black, yellow and red striped jersey the next spring. No Het Volk victory this time but be was off to a good start until the Ghent-Wevelgem race in April.

Somehow, as the pack rode single file

in a heavy wind, Nelissen hit one of the many thick wooden stakes that mark the side of back-country roads. His right knee was shattered, his thigh ripped open, his shin fractured.

Then began, and continues, his second comeback. Not until February 1997, nearly a year later, was he able to resume riding. By then, his Lotto sponsor had dropped him, and he moved from the country's only major team to Palmans, a low-budget one. When the Tour de France was starting last July, the rider who once wore its yellow jersey was finally fit for his first race.

It was one of the small ones, called kermesses, that nearly every village in Belgium sponsors on weekends. Among the riders from some unsung Belgian teams, Nelissen raced up main streets, out past flat farmland and then back down main streets. Even if the competition was oot overly stiff and even if his team convoyed him most of the way, Nelissen still astounded the sport by winning a kermesse in Sint Niklaas. He

seemed to be on his way back. Late this January, he went to Spain to train with the Het Volk as his first big goal, but after a 100-kilometer ride, he returned to his hotel in tears from the pain in his knee. He rested, tried to train again and could not. Last week he had surgery to repair calcification in the knee.

Nelissen will give himself this one last year to see if he has a future as a rider, his friends say. He cannot discuss his chances because he does not want to be called in the hospital.



Ole Kristian Furuseth of Norway winning the men's slalom on Sunday.

3 Norwegian Skiers Sweep Top Men's Slalom Spots

YONG PYONG, South Korea - The guy with the funny red hair made only the briefest of appearances Sunday for the World Cup slalom and yet he can take a lot of credit for Norway's sweep

of the first three places The reason we're doing so well is because of Hans-Petter Buraas," said Ole Kristian Furuseth, who outraced his teammates, Finn Christian Jagge and Tom Stiansen, to win the final event of the first World Cup weekend in South

"He has given us great momeotum by winning the gold medal and pushing us to our limits in training because he was very fast," Foruseth said.

Buraas, the Norwegian whose hair is dyed fright-wig red, went off course after three gates in the morning run. Furuseth, who got the silver medal behind Buraas in the Olympic slalom in lapan last month, gained his first victory since 1995 with a two-run time of 1 minute, 39.15 seconds.

"Starting No. 1 was an advantage for me because the course was perfect for me," Furuseth said. "It became choppy

for the later starters." Furuseth woo his first World Cup race in 1989 at Shiga Kogen, Japan, and also won at Furano, Japan, later that season.

Jagge was second overall in 1:39.82 -39 hundredths of a second better than Stiansen, last year's world championship gold medalist, who was third in the first heat as well.

On Saturday, Michael Von Gruenigen of Switzerland displayed a master's tooch on the reacherous lower section of the slope to win the men's giant slalom, Christian Mayer of Austria was second, 40 hundredths of a second behind. Hermann Maier of Austria, the Olympic giant slalom champion and runaway leader in the World Cup overall standings, was third,

■ Ertl Wins Night Race

Martina Ertl of Germany won a women's night slalom Sunday in one minute and 36 seconds, The Associated Press reported from Hinterglemm, Austria.

Trine Bakke of Norway finished second in 1:36.07, with Kristina Koznick of the United States third in

African Hopefuls Give Few Clues to World Cup

Egypt Wins Soccer Title but Will Miss France

By Brian Homewood

OUAGADOUGOU, Burkina Faso The African Nations' Cop, which finished with Egypt bearing South Africa, 2-0, in the final oo Saturday, gave little away about the continent's prospects at the World Cup finals in France this year.

The title went to a team that failed to qualify for the World Cup, while Nigeria, probably the strongest of Africa's World Cup quintet, was not in Burkina Faso because of suspension.

Tunisia, which will play England, Colombia and Romania in the World Cup Group G, did linle to impress scouts from those countries and may have left them wondering how Tunisia overcame the polished Egyptians in its World Cop qualifying group.

Any observers sent by the first-round opponents of South Africa, Morocco and Cameroon are unlikely to have drawn many firm conclusions.

To add to the unpredictability of the African teams, South Africa will go to the World Cup under a different coach, while coaching changes are possible for both Cameroon and Tunisia.

"As first time goers, we must just go and enjoy ourselves," said Mark Fish, a South Africa defender. "If any African team can win the World Cup, it should be Nigeria. They've got enough ex-perience, they've got enough good play-

Sooth Africa shone in flashes, especially in its first-round victory over Namibia and its semifinal victory over the Democratic Republic of Congo, but was ultimately outclassed by Egypt in the final when its play was uninspired and its forwards lacked sparkle.

Camerooo had two of the tournament's most promising young players in Rigobert Song and Pierre Niend Wome, already playing in his second Nations' Cup at the age of 18. In Alphonse Tchami, who scored in each first-round game, it also appears to have found a regular goalscorer.

Cameroon played well in patches but badly throughout its quarterfinal, when it suffered a shock elimination against

the Democratic Republic of Congo. Morocco, which played a similar disciplined game to Egypt, appeared to be

saving itself for France.

Moroccans said afterward that their

preparation had not been the best, parily ecause of the Muslim holy mouth of They will have to improve on their

shooting if they are to progress beyond the first round in France, when Brazil, Norway and Scotland will be their op-Tunisia was outplayed by Ghang beat the Democratic Republic of Congo

and Togo without ever looking conviously unrated bosts on penalties in the The rournament showed that African teams are generally improving their tac-tical discipline, and the old belief that

they are good to watch but naive no longer holds true. Egypt, especially, was very well or-ganized. It conceded only one goal on its way to the title.

In the final, Ahmed Hassan and Tarek . Mostafa scored in the first 13 minutes and the Egyptian defense comfortably resisted all of South Africa's attacks after that to give Egypt a record fourth African title. Mahmoud Gohari became the first man to win the competition both as a player and as a coach.

The coaches of Algeria, Ghana, Zambia and Angola were all victims of dismissals or attempted dismissals, and Camerooo's path to France appears to be fraught with uncertainty.

Jean Manga Onguene, the Cameroon coach, refused to talk about his prospects of remaining in charge until the finals. Roger Milla, Cameroon's mostfamous former player, was in Burkina, officially as a talent scout for the French cluh Montepellier. But Milla went into the team dressing room before every match, and sources said he was giving. team talks to Onguene.

South Africa will almost certainly start the World Cup with a new coach. South Africa played under a caretaker coach, Jomo Sono, in Burkina Faso. The South African soccer federation had announced beforehand that Philippe Troussier, a Frenchman, would replace Sooo however the team performed. Troussier led Nigeria to the World Cup finals before being dismissed last year. Then he took over Burkina Faso and coached it to the semifinal here.

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FRIDAY RESULTS Texas 7. Minnesoto 0 Fizrido 2. Tampo Bay I

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Cincinnati S. Minnesota 4, 10 innings Battimore 7. Los Angeles 5 Konses City vs. Housten, ppd., rain St. Louis S. Mantreal O New York Yankees 10. Pittsburgh 0 Chicago Cubs 11, Milwaykee 9

BASKETBALL **NBA STANDINGS**

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24 C: Strong 8-17 5-6 21, Grunt 16-20 0-2 20. Rebeunds—Torondo 63 (Camby 13), Orlando 74 (Grunt 20). Assists—Toronfo 17 (Brown 9). Orlando 24 (Outlaw 7).
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17: 5: Baker 8-131-417. Schrempf 6-104-617.

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SEMIFMALS Frostburg St. 69, PRt-Brodford 67 Penn St.-Behrund 59, La Roche 58

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WESTERN CONFINENCE

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ICEHOCKEY

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First Period: B-Ausisson 5, 2 B-Klushich
19 (Ausisson Ellett) (sh), 3, B-Bourque 10
(Ausisson, Sumsonov) (pg), Secured Period:
P-Stroke 10 (Bornes, Hatcher) Third Period:

Tork Caroniums 22 (Graves Centary (Gr.)
Third Period: P-Klaft 10 (Grafton, LeClari) 3.
P-Lindros 26 (Origin, BrindAmour) 3.
P-Forbes 7 (Zubrus, Siffinger) Shots on good: P10-11-12—33. New York 9-11-7—27. Goodies: "

P-Hextall, New York, Richier.
Washingtes
Tampa Bay
Tampa Bay
First Period: T-Willde 2, 2, T., Yseboert 10
(Zammer, Ardensson) Second Period: W-Johnsson 13 (Brunette, Cates) (pp.), 4, W-Bolks 5 (Reekla): 5, T., Hull 3 (Andensson, Sonsignore) 6, T-Cross 2 (Sonsignore) Trind Period: T-Yseboert 10 (Zammer, Hull) (en).
Shots en god: W-8-14-15-37, T-5-8-9, 22.
Godles: W-Kolzig, Renford, T-Fizpatrick, Phoesity

6 0 0-4 Goulles: W-Kotzig, Renford, T-Pitzpetrick, Phoeetiz Dulles Hitsi Period: D-Langenbrunner 18 (Chambers, Harkher) (pp), Second Period: Dulls, Manshall 7 (Langenbrunner, Adams)

First Period: Hone, swore renou-chicogo Shantz 10 (Lafirenne) 2. Chicogo Amonte 22 (Zhamaov) (sh). Third Period: Chicago Krivolassov 9 (Shantz, Lerouz) 4. Chicago Svier 12 (Chelles, Shantz) (op). Shota ou seal: Chicago 10-8-8-26. Calorado 9-8-16-33. Godfes: Chicago Hackett. Calorado Billitarton.

Colorado Billington.

\$1. Losis 1 2 2

Los Angeles 0 2 0 2 6

First Period: S.L.-Duchesne 12-(Torget pp.). Second Period: L.A.-Biolee

(Stumpel) 3, Los Angeles Minroy

(M.Leitragon, Vopet) 4, S.L.-, G.Courinal

(Demitra, Campbell) 5, S.L.-Turgeon

(Duchesne, Moclinis) (pp.). Third Per

\$1. Convinced 14 (Demitra, G.Courinal)

Period: Coroling, Primeou 1)
xn) (pp), Second Period: N.J. Sounty
2, N.L. Niedermayer 9 2 (Holik, Brodeur) 2 N.J.-Niedermoyer (Andreychuk, Sykoru) (pp). Third Peri

(Notice, McSoriey) (sh), 4, E-Weight 20 (Gearth, Mironov) (pp), Third Period: E-Murray 7, (sh), Shris an gools 5.1, 9-6-12-27, E-7-12-11-30, Godfes: S.J.-Vernon. First Period: O-Dockett 11 (Yashin, Afredsson) (pp). 2 O-McGochem 17 (Dockett Kravchuk) (pp). 3 V-Messier 18 (Bertuzzi, Ohlund) (pp). Second Period: V-Bertazzi 9 (Bebych) 5. O-Lumbert 7 (Pittic) Third Pariod: V-Mensier 19 (Bure, Lumme) 7. V-Bure 35, 8. V-Scatchard 10 (Nooman,

McAllister) 9, V-Bure 36, penalty shot, 10, O-Docket 12 (Combert Bonk) Stats on goak O-10-9-10-29, V- 7-6-11-24, Sousses: O-Rhodes, V-Irbe, Burke. CRICKET SOUTH AFRICA VS. PAKISTAN

BURDAY IN DURBAN, BOUTH AFT

HEW TEALAND YS. ZIMBARWE SECOND TEST, THERE DAY BOO PRESIDENT'S XI YE. AUSTRALIA

GOLF DUBAI DESERT CLASSIC

played on 7,102-yard (6,463-meter) Emirate Golf Club occurse in Dubel, U.A.E.;
J. M. Okozobal. Spain: 69-67-64
Stephen Aflan, Aus. 67-70-67
Robert Kurisson, Swe. 66-65-61 Emie Eis. S. Africa fan Woesnam, Wales. Ignocio Garrido, Sp. 67-63-66-76-276 67-68-70-276 67-68-68-73-276 Greg Normen, Aus.
Alex Cepta, Germany,
Andrew Oldcom, Scot.
Seva Bellestera, Sp. C. Menfgumens, Scot.

RUGBY UNION SUPER 12

FIRST ROUND Western Stormers 45, Westington 3: Golden Cats 39, Northern Bulls 32 Coastal Sharts 24, Audidand 8 Walkato Chiefs 25, Cariferbury 23 New South Wales 27 vs. ACT 7 Wellington L ACT Stumbles & Auctiond 0.

> SKIING WORLD CUP MEN'S QUANT STATEM

er. Austrio. 222275 (180476 18162778 a. ner-mont Maler, Austria. 223.01 (1:07.52, 1:15.47); A. Proi Accola, Switz. 223.03 (1:08.14, 1:15.19); S. Roiner Salzgeber, Aus-tria. 223.62 (1:08.18, 1:15.47); 6. Amold 223.62 (2:08.18, 1:15.47); 6. Amold Rieder, H., 2-21.64 (1-08.39, 1:15.25); 7, Ar QIANT STALON IN recognic 1. Miller, 540 polinis 2. Von Grunigen, 529; 3. Meyer, 379; 4. Hores, 500; 6. Lin Knouss, Austria, 285; 5. Eberharter 286; 6. Uis Knein, 5. witz, 248; 7. Raines Subgeber, Austria, 229; 3. Steve Locher Switz, 228; 9. Parol Accole, Switz, 198; 10. Vol. 1

B.Jure Kosic Slovenic, 1:40.86 (49.92.50.50;9. Joel Chenol. Fr., 1:40.87 (50.44, 50.83); 10. Martin Housson, Swe., 1:41.67 (50:30, 50:77). SEALON (attre 8 recent 1. Star-gossinger, 488 points; 2. Sylom, 476: 3. Hors-Potter Borgos, Nor., 340: 4. Foruseth, 296: 5. Kimure. 292: 6. Kosir. 239: 7. Jagge. 285: 8. Fr. 189; 10, Chengt 178. OVERALL (After 22 events): 1. Moies, 1.625 points: 2. Schifferer, 1,434; 3. Ebertor-

Thomas Sukare Austria 1:40 77 (49 64 6) 515

ter, 873: 4. Asmodt, 752: 5. You Gruenigen. 670: 6. Knouse, 656: 7. Mayer, 532: 8. Stangassinger, 510: 9. Werner Franz, Austria, 478;

SOCCER

AFRICAN CUP OF NATIONS

Egypt 2, South Africa 0 DYNASTY CUP ENOLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

Crement & Manchester Urtred 1
Crystol Policic Q. Coverinty 3
Derby 3, Sheffield Wednesday 0
Everton Q. Navicastle 0
Everton Q. Navicastle 0
Everton Q. Navicastle 0
Tottenham Holspur 1, Botton 0
SYBSEDERS Manchester U. 59 points:
Blackburn 48; Assend L. Liverpool 47; Chelsed 45: Derby 45: Liverpool 47; Chelsed 45: Liverpool 47; 45 Derby 45: Leicester 40: Leeds, West Ham Coveriny 39: Southampton 37: Newcastle Sheffield Wednesday 34: Aston Villa 33: Witn

GERMAN BUYE ERLIGA FC Kalserstarten G. Kartsroher SC O Borussia Dortmund Z. Wender Brenne Hamburger SV 1, Scholice 1 Sayern Munich 0, FC Cologne 2 Boyer Munich 6, FC Cologne 2
Boyer Levertusen 0, Arminia Bielefeld 0
MSV Duteburg 0, 1860 Munich 2
STANDONGE: Koiserstauten 53 points
Boyern Munich 47: Bayer Levertusen 42
Scholke 38: Stuffgurf 37; Horsa Restock 34
Deisburg, Werder Brenten 33: Bonssia Dort
mund, Hertte Bertin 32: Worfsburg, Bochun
29: Cologne 27; Kartsruher 26: Hamburget
1860 Munich 25: Bielefeld 24: Moenchen
riodbach 24.

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION

Detroit PREMARE DIVISION

PKC Woolvijk 0. Vitesse Archem 1
Ajax Amsterdam 3. NEC Nijnsegen 8

KVV Woostricht 2. FC Twente 2.

Doefinchem 1. Fortung Sittand 8

Graningen 1. Sparta Rotterdom 1

Votendam 4. Willem 11 Tilburg 1

Uffecht 1. Breda 3

Frystoard 2. Haergreen 8

Utrecht 27: Rods JC Kertypde 26: Nie Groningen 73; Maastricht 22; RKC W 16; Voiencom 14. ITALIAN FIRST DIVISION

9TAMONERAS: Juventus 51 points: Inter Mikan 47; Lurio 45; Udinese 42: AS Rome. Perma 41; Florentina 38: AC Mikm 35; Sam-pidoria 34; Bologna, Vicarua 26; Bressic, Em-pol. Piocenzo, Bari 25; Atalenta Bergama 21; SPANISH FUST DIVISION
Afficia Bibbo 2. Sparing Gipn 2
Celta Vigo 2. Departing Coruna 1
Validotal 2. Tenerife 1

Juventus I. Bori 0

Borcelong 49: Atletico Modrid 45: Real Sa-Sandander 30; Tenerife, Salamanca 28; Com-postelu 27; Sporfing Gijon 7.

PRENCH GEP Mortoco Z. Diye Bourg-Perormas 2 Metz 0 Argentian 1, RC Lens 3 Istres & Olympique Lyon 1, OT En Avant Guingamp 1, Toulon 1 Pou 0. Ports St Germain 1, CT

AMERICAN OPEN IN LINZ, AUSTRIA Dominique van Roast (4), Relation, def has

Majoli (2), Croatia, 6-2 (Majoli retired). Noveme def. van Roost 6-1, 7-6 (7-2). IGA TENNIS CLASSIC CUARTERFINALS Lindsay Dovenport (1), U.S., def. Lee Ghims (3), U.S., def. Pronoueca Lubical Haly, 7-6 (7-5), 6-4.

Testud (2), France, 6-3, 6-4. Joannette Kruger (4), South Africa, def. SEMIFINALS
Williams def. Davenport 6-7 (5-7), 6-2, 6-3.
Kruger def. Pitkowski 3-6, 6-3, 6-4. GUARDIAN CUP

Wayne Ferreira, South Africa, def. Patrick Rafter (2), Australia, 6-4, 6-4, Cedric Piotine, Emace, def., Jan Si

Kafelnikov def. Pioline 7-5, 6-4.

ADVANTA CLAMPIONSHIPS Torongo, U.S., 4-6, 6-4, 6-4. Thomas Engylst (3), Sweden, def. Richey Stufford South Africa 6-4 6-3.

Engvist def. Lareau 6-3, 3-6, 6-3. TRANSITIONS

ron—Agreed to terms with OF A KANSAS CITY-Agreed to terms with RHP KANSAS CITY—Agreed to terms with RHP Scott Service. IHF Shame Hotter, RHP Joine Barna, RHP Baran Berli, DF Ryan Long and INF Mendy Lopez on 1-year contracts.

NEW YORK—Self RHP Joe Borowski outlight to Columbas, IL.

SEATTLE—Coinned RHP Moutano de la Rasa off watvers from Cleveland, Designated RHP Edwin Hurtand for assignment.

TEXAS—Agreed to terms with RHP Julio Sontono, C Kerth Brown and DF Mark Liftle on 1-year Contracts.

on 1-year contracts.
TORONTO - Agreed to ferms with INF Felipe
Crespo, IHF Torn Evans, INF Ryon Freel and OF Lots Schume to 1-year comments. ARIZONA-Released OF David Holse. Rey Ordonez, LHP RIM Putsinher most C AL

BASKETSALL AS Feb. 26 game against the New Jersey.

CLEVELAND—Put F Darmy Ferry on Injured

Injured list. Put F Tony Farmer on Injured list. GETROIT—Put C Eric Montress on Injured fist. Activated G Steve Henson from Info

LA LAKERS—Put G Nick Van Exeton injure list. Activated G Shea Seets from injured list. NEW YORK—Signed F Ben Davis to a 10-toy contract. Re-signed C Horb Williams. PHILADELPHIA—Activated G Anthony

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE ARIZONA-Signed G Lester Holmes to 4-ATLANTA-Signed RB Horold Green to 2-CAROLINA-Matched Miami's offersheel to OL Mait Compbett. Agreed to terms with LB

CUNCHNATI-Troced DT Don Wilkinson to Weshington for 1998 1st-round and 2d-round druff picks;
DALLAS—Signed CB Kevin Smith to confract extension and WR Ernie Mills to 1-yeor contract. Re-signed WR Billy Dovis. GREEN BAY—Signed LB Antonio London-S Notan Cromwell wide receivers coach. INDIANAPOLIS-Woived RB Leon Neol.

NEW ENGLAND-Re-signed OG Todd Rucci. Signed FB Tony Corter to 3-year contract.

8.Y. JETS—Agreed to terms with FB Kelth
Byars and G-C Todd Burger.

OAKLAND—Named Gary Stevens quarter-PITTSBURGH—Signed CB Dewayne Wash inglon to 4-year contract.

Tompson.

ST. LOUIS—Signed WR Ricky Proshi to 4year contract. Signed LB Eric Hill to 2-year
contract. Signed OT Ray Agnew.
SAN GIEGO—Re-signed DL David Birm to 2year contract, and WR Anthony Rogers and
CB Mark Mapfresil to 1-year contracts. SAN FRANCISCO-Agreed to forms with P Hinny Thompson. SEATTLE—Named Tim Lappano running

bods coach NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE ANAHELM—Recalled C Richard Park from Cincinnati, AHL and C-LW Kevin Todd from Long Beach, IHL, Re-assigned D Dan Trebil Scint John, AHL.
CARGLINA—Recalled D Notan Profit from
New Haven, AHL. CAROLINA-Recalled LW Bates Battaglia from New Hover, AHL SOSTON—Assigned Providence, AMI Providence, AHL.

BUFFALO—Recoiled D Rumun Nour from Rochester, AHL. COLORADO-Recoiled G Pair Franck from COLORADO—RECORDE G PETT PTURBE TOUR Hershey, AHL.

OALLAS—Activated LW Greg Adoms and O Richard Matricinus from Injusted reserves EDMONTYON—Recorded C Boyd Deversation D Terrain Sandwith and RW Scatt Fraser from

Homilton, AHL. New Hoven, AHL from Kentucky, AHL. Assigned D Jason Hot-

inom Kentucky, Arri. Assessment inom Kentucky, Arri. Assessment inom Bicanek from Manifeba, IHL.

PHOENEX—Announced RW Joseph Worcester, AHL and G Rich Parent from Der TAMPA BAY-Signed RW Stephone Richer

COLLEGE ARITONA—Suspended hasketball C Don-nell Horns for 2 gonnes for missing processes UC SANTA BASEARA—Announced resigna-tion of Jerry Plana, men's busicetball concil-

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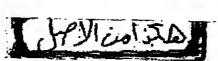
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March 1997 Action in purile of Feb. 2-THE HOUSE A STR Service Con-



SPORTS

preparation and Muslim holy more

They will have to improve on the They will have to unprove of the shooting of they are to progress by the first round in France, when he had Scotland will be at Norway and Scotland will be then

Tunisia was outplayed by the beat the Democratic Republic of the rethour ever look. heat the Democratic Republic of our and Togo without ever looking a vincing and then crashed to the vincing and house on months. viously unrated hosts on penalties p

The tournament showed that Abo ream: are generally improving that the tieral discipline, and the old belief they are good to watch but many imager holds true. Egypt. -specially, was very ad.

ganized. It conceded only one goding in the final Ahmed Hassan and L In the final, Anned Hassan and a Mostafa scored in the first 13 mm and the Egyptian defense comfore resisted all of South Africa's and after that to give Egypt a record for African title. Mahmoud Gohan keeping and to win the company of the first man to win the company. the first man to win the compensate

as a player and as a coach. The coaches of Algeria, Ghana !hia and Angola were all vicinities missals or attempted dismissals Cameroon's path to France appear be traught with uncertainty.
Jean Manga Ooguene, the Came

coach, refused to talk about he p pects of remaining in charge mil-finals. Roger Milia, Cameroors as famous former player, was in Betofficially as a talent scout for the figciue Montepellier, But Milla was the team dressing room before of Talich, and sources said he was at team talks to Onguene.

Sunte Airres will almost one : Start the World Cap with a new org. South Affice played under a rance erratiti. Jerrio Sono, in Burkinafre L South African soccer federatorials resurred beforehand that Pale Tropperer : Frenchman , would rec Sono newsyer the team perform. Tracessier led Nigeria to the Woldle retain before being dismissed lays Then he look over Burking Fig. coacted it to the semainal had

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The Knicks Stand Tall

To Take Down Lakers

To Take Down Lakers

Battered and Undersized, New York Rolls

46 and its road mark to 4-25.

juries and a height disadvantage on Sunday to beat the Los Angeles Lakers. 101-89, at Madison Square Garden.

Allen Houston scored 32 points for New York, which held the Lakers 10 just one field goal over the final 61/2 minutes

NBA ROUNDUP

and held Los Angeles 17 points below its league-leading average.
It was the eighth victory in 10 games

since the All-Star break for New York, which won despite the absence of the injured Patrick Ewing. Buck Williams. Chris Dudley and Chris Childs. Also. John Starks was playing with a hy-perextended elbow and Larry Johnson had a sprained thumh.

The lack of personnel and nagging injuries didn't stop the Knicks from forcing the game to be played in their favored style — a slow, defensive battle. New York kept Shaquille O'Neal from getting involved in any way during the fourth period, holding the star center to just one point and no rebounds.

O'Neal had 19 points to lead the Lakers, but he shot just 6-for-16. He was outrebounded, 9-7, by Charles Oakley, who guarded him almost the entire game despite being down almost five inches in height and 70 pounds in

In games played Saturday: Mavericks 103, Wizards 77 Michael

Finley scored 27 points and A. C. Green had a season-high 25 points and 11 rebounds in Washington as Dallas gained only its fourth road victory of the

The mood was a little upbeat, for a change, in the Mavericks' locker

'Break up the Mavericks," the Dallas coach, Don Nelson, joked after his team won only its second road game in 23 tries since he took over oo Dec. 4. Dallas improved its overall record to 1146 and its road mark to 4-25. Rod Strickland led the Wizards with

27 points and oine assists, but Washington could not overcome a scason-low 34.1 percent shooting from the field.

Cedric Cehallos, making his first start since being traded to the Mavericks from Phoenix on Feb. 18, had 21 points and 10 rebounds. Green, playing all 48 minutes, extended his NBA-record consecutive-game streak to 953.

Washington led by eight points four minutes into the game, but the Wizards went cold, and Dallas scored the final eight points of the first quarter to take a 29-21 lead.

Dallas led, 54-39, at the half, and hy the time the Mavericks had a 21-point lead in the third quarter, the MCI Center was filled with a chorus of boos. "We stunk up the place," said Bernie Bickersiaff, the Washington coach.

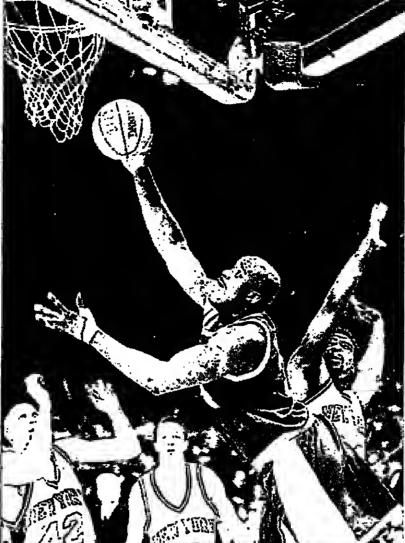
Bulls 109, Kings 94 in Chicago, Scottie Pippen scored a season-high 29 points, and Dennis Rodman grahhed 18 rebounds in his return to the starting

lineup as the Bulls beat Sacramento, Much Richmond outscored Michael Jordan, 34-28, in a hattle of All-Star guards, but could not prevent Sacramento's sixth consecutive loss.

Rodman, going for his seventh-straight NBA rebounding title, had been relegated to a reserve role in the previous six games after he missed two practices. He got back into the starting lineup because of Luc Longley's knee

Spurs 100, 76ers 88 In San Antonio, Avery Johnson scored 18 of his 20 points in the second half as the Spurs rallied from a 10-point halftime deficit to beat Philadelphia.

Johnson and Tim Duncan, who had 27 points and 17 rebounds, helped make up for the limited playing time of David Robinson. The All-Star center, who bad missed the previous six games with a knee injury, played just 24 minutes against the Sixers, finishing with 17 points and eight rebounds.



Shaquille O'Neal of the Lakers, foreground, going round Charles Oakley of the Knicks to approach the basket from behind on Sunday.

Heat 95, Note 93 Alonzo Mourning scored 11 of his 28 points in the fourth quarter as Miami rallied from a 20-point third-quarter deficit to win io New Jer-

Miami, which entered the fourth quarter trailing, 78-63, won without Tim Hardaway, who was ejected after receiving two technical fouls with 4:51 to play in the third period. They also lost Keith Askins, who was called for a flagrant foul on Keith Van Horn and

ejected with 6;39 remaining.

Homets 90, Magic 80 In Charlotte,
Anthony Masoo had 24 points and 13

The Indiana Pacers could have stop-

Cato and Rick Brunson io the closiog minutes kept Portland from matching the lowest total in NBA history.

short of the worst rout in NBA history: Miami's 148-80 loss to Cleveland in

rebounds as the Homets pulled away from Orlando

■ Blazers Set a Dubious Record

ped shooting after their first basket of the third quarter and still won, The Associated Press reported from Indianapolis. The Pacers beat the Blazers, 124-59, on Friday. Portland was the first team in the 51-year history of the NBA to score fewer than half as many points as its opponent. In its previous game, Portland had upset the defending NBA champion Bulls in Chicago.
Only a free throw apiece by Kelvin

The 65-point deficit was three points

they never left the American League. In many ways, what is a homecoming for some fans will seem like a move into

NL-Bound Brewers Busy Doing Their Homework

> By Claire Smith ien fina Times Service

MARYVALE, Arizona - Is it better to be a National League team in the American League, or a National League team in the National League?

The Milwauker Brewers are about to find out. An American League team with a proclivity toward playing a National League style, as desigoed by its manager, Phil Gamer, Milwaukee is baseball's lone realignment testing ground, moving from the AL Central to the NL Central this year.

The move is perhaps a precursor to massive realignment once more reluctant teams get the spirit. For now it is a curiosity. In one sense it fits the franchise like a glove, yet ii is discom-

Milwaukee was the home of the Braves until that NL team moved to Atlanta in 1966. The city that watched Henry Aaron, Warren Spahn and Eddie Mathews grow into Hall of Famers nev-er forgot its National League roots, not even when the Seattle Pilots of the American League moved to Milwaukee in the form of the Brewers in 1970.

We did a poll, and it showed that 85 percent wanted us to switch leagues," said Sal Bando, the Brewers' general manager. "So it told me the roots go very deep even a generation removed from when the Braves were there."

The enthusiasm, which has increased ticket sales, has made a coovert of Garner, who admits that he was not excited about the move at first, "The fans have made me excited," he said.

'They re really into it," As for the economics, the Brewers, long a struggling small-market team, are happy to say good-bye to a division that held the hig-market, free-spending Chicago White Sox and Cleveland In-

dians.
"We can't compete at that level,"
Bando said. "At least in the National
League Central, with the Reds, Pittsburgh, they're more within our arena, and we can compete better that way." The comfort zone on the field may be more difficult to find.

Yes, the NL may be metamorphosiog into more of a hitter's league as Astroturf teams that relied on speed alone slowly go the way of the surface itself. Yet, even as the images of Maury Wills and Lou Brock give way to the muscle of Mike Piazza and Mark McGwire, the Brewers will not occessarily feel as if

uncharted territory for the players. It is as if every player's nightmare about

winding up in an alien world without a scouting report has been multiplied to

Pitchers who have rarely lifted a bat must now hunt, hit and run the bases because they are in a league without designated hiners. Hitters who thrived amid the high earned-run averages of the American League will oow have the pleasure of facing 100-mile-an-hour re-lievers like Robb Nen and an Atlanta Braves team that is three-deep in Cy Young award winners.

So the Brewers look to seers. Like Marquis Grissom, a ceoier fielder wbo grew up with the NL Expos and Braves before spending last season with the AL

champion Indians.

He's extremely critical, Garner said. "We're going to use him as another set of eyes, another data bank on

Then there is just plain old cramming, taking place all over the Brewers' new spring training complex here. The most intriguing involves the pitchers, who are approaching life on offense like new-

"You bold your breath every time they slide," Bando said.

Still, Garner says he has liked what he has seen in his pitchers' efforts thus far. He does not expect perfection early on in batting practice. But Garner will demand competence by the time the sea-

"They have to know when to go an extra base, and I don't want to see them doubled off every time there is a line drive in the infield." the manager said, "Our pitchers are intelligeot, They should be able to make good judg-

If oot, he warned, outings could be short and not so sweet.

'If I see that they cannot handle the bat at all, then they're going to be taken out of the game, 'said Garner, whose pitchers were 0 for 18 during interleague games last season. "I'm going to be forced to use a pinch-hitter. So it's incumbeot on them to learn to bunt, because it only helps them."

As for managing, Garner, too, has

homework to do. 'I'll have scouting reports and all

this information at my fingertips, but it's oot the same as having embellished that with whal you've seeo with your own eyes. And that's going to take a little How long?

"I hope we're acclimated in spring training, but, in reality, I doo'l know." Garner said. "We doo't know the hitters, the pitchers, the umpires, the fields. We just doo't know the league. So I just

Kansas Downs Oklahoma State, 71-67

Syracuse Comes Back From 10-Point Deficit to Beat Georgetown in OT

The Associated Press

Raef LaFrentz scored 13 of his 17 points in the second half on Suoday and grahbed 14 rebounds to help No. 4 Kansas close out the regular season with a get off a shot before time expired.

71-67 victory over No. 25 Oklahoma . . In games played Saturday:

by 13 points at halftime and by 10 with Bramlett had 11 points and a careerrally to beat host Oklahoma State (21-5, 11-5) for the sixth straight time and end the Cowboys' seven-game winning streak.

Five of LaFrentz's rebounds were at the offensive end, with two of the higgest coming in the final minute.

No. 24 Temple 74, No. 20 Massacht setts 66 In Philadelphia, Pepe Sanchez scored 19 points and Rasheed Brokeoborough added 16 as Temple defeated Massachusetts to win the Eastern Division of the Atlantic 10.

The victory gave Temple (20-7, 13-3) first-round bye in the league tournament, which begins Wednesday in Philadelphia. Monty Mack had 15 points for the Minutemeo (20-9, 12-4) who commit-

ted 20 turnovers. They will meet Virginia Tech in the tournameot's first No. 23 Syracuse 77, Georgetown 72 Todd Burgan came alive in the second half and rallied bost Syracuse with his

clotch shooting and timely defensive

plays as the Orangemen outlasted Geor-

ATTEMPT TO THE STATE OF THE STA getown in overtime. Burgan scored all 19 of his points after halftime as be led Syracuse (22-7, 12-6 Big East) back from a 10-point deficit over the final 5:14 to send Georgetown (14-13, 6-12) to its seventh loss in 10 games and dim the Hoyas' bopes of a National Invitation Tour-

nameot bid. Burgan's basket off a rebound and free throw with 22 seconds left tied the game at 68. Syracuse got the ball back

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The Jayhawks (31-3, 15-1 Big 12) led Miles Simon scored 20 points and A. J. Stanford to elinch its eighth Pae-10 title in 15 years under Coach Lute Olson.

Arizooa (26-3, 16-0) also tied a 5year-old school record by winning its 19th consecutive game, the nation's

COLLEGE BASKETBALL longest winning streak. The Cardinal (24-4, 13-3) won their first 18 games of the seasoo before Arizona beat them, 93-75, on Jan. 29.

Jason Terry and Michael Dickerson, the Wildcats' secood-half weapon, had 15 points each on Saturday. Dickerson, who had 21 points in the second half last week against California, was scoreless at halftime. Mark Madsen, who missed the first Arizona game, led the visiting Cardinal with 10 points and seven re-

No. 5 Utah 65, No. 16 New Mexico 55 In Salt Lake City, Hanno Mottola scored 18 points as Utah beat New Mexico in a showdown for the Western Athletic Conference's Mouotain Division title.

No. 6 Connecticut 87, St. John's 58 Khalid El-Amin scored 29 points as host Connecticut clinched the Big East regular-seasoo crowo and the No. 1 seed in the conference tournament with a victory over St. John's.

No. 7 Kentucky 69, No. 14 South Carolina 57 Jeff Sheppard scored 24 points and Heshimo Evans added 22 as Kentucky (26-4, 14-2 Southeastern Conference) eoded South Carolina's 22game bome winning streak. No. 9 Princeton 72, Cornell 59 Prince-

with seven seconds remaining after Burgan stepped in froot of a driving Joseph Touomou for a charge. Burgan then drove the length of the court hut couldn't get off a shot before time expired.

100 used 3-point sharp-shooting for its 18th straight victory. The visiting Tigers (25-1, 13-0) made 10-of-20 3-point sharp-shooting for its 18th straight victory. The visiting Tigers (25-1, 13-0) made 10-of-20 3-point sharp-shooting for its 18th straight victory. The visiting Tigers (25-1, 13-0) made 10-of-20 3-point sharp-shooting for its 18th straight victory. The visiting Tigers (25-1, 13-0) made 10-of-20 3-point sharp-shooting for its 18th straight victory. The visiting Tigers (25-1, 13-0) made 10-of-20 3-point sharp-shooting for its 18th straight victory. The visiting Tigers (25-1, 13-0) made 10-of-20 3-point sharp-shooting for its 18th straight victory. The visiting Tigers (25-1, 13-0) made 10-of-20 3-point sharp-shooting for its 18th straight victory. The visiting Tigers (25-1, 13-0) made 10-of-20 3-point sharp-shooting for its 18th straight victory. The visiting Tigers (25-1, 13-0) made 10-of-20 3-point sharp-shooting for its 18th straight victory. The visiting Tigers (25-1, 13-0) made 10-of-20 3-point sharp-shooting for its 18th straight victory. for-15 from beyond the arc.

Alabama 65, No. 12 Arkansas 63 Brian Williams scored 20 points, including a free throw with 5.9 seconds left, as host bama upset Arkansas to give David Hobbs, who is slated to be replaced as the Crimson Tide's coach, a victory in his last regular-season game.

No. 13 Mississippi 74, Auburn 67 In Oxford, Mississippi, Ansu Sesay scored 24 points as the Rebels (21-5, 12-4) clinched at least a share of the Southeastern Conference West Division.

No. 15 Texas Christian 86, Rice 73 In Houston, Lee Nailoo scored 25 points as Texas Christian woo its 15th consecutive game, becoming the first Western Athletic Conference team to go undefeated in the conference.

No. 17 Cincinnati 61, Saint Louis 58 D'Juan Baker made a jumper with 17 secoods left as host Cincinnati overcame an 18-point deficit to clinch the best regular-season record in Conference USA. Miami 70, No. 19 West Virginia 66 In

Miami, The Hurricanes (18-8, 11-7 Big East) bolstered their NCAA tournament hopes by improving to 3-4 against Top-25 ranked opponents.

No. 21 Michigan 76, Wisconsin 70 Robert Traylor scored 26 poiots and Louis Bullock added 25 as the Wolverioes (21-8, 11-5 Big Ten), clinched the No. 4 seed in the first Big Ten tournameot, The Badgers (11-18, 3-13) dropped their 11th straight conference

timore, Rodney Elliott scored 20 points and grabbed a career-high 17 rebounds as the Terrapins (18-9) beat Temple's so-called matchup zone defense hy making a seasoo-high nine 3-pointers.

Messier Passes Milestone and Wins

The Associated Press

VANCOUVER, British Columbia -Mark Messier got his 1,600th-National Hockey League point and then led a four-goal rally io the third period that gave the Vancouver Canucks a 6-4 victory over the Ottawa Senators.

"I guess it's somewhat of a milestooe, but I'm just playing and not really thinking about milestones," said Messier, who scored two goals to become the fourth NHL player to reach 1,600 points, joining Wayne Gretzky. Gordie Howe and Marcel Dionne.

Messier reached the plateau Sanirday with his first goal of the game, but it was his second that sparked the third-period

With Vancouver trailing, 3-2, Messier tied the game three minutes into the third, capping a 2-on-1 break with a shot past Damian Rhodes, the Ottawa

The Canucks went ahead for good 33 seconds later wheo Pavel Bure stripped Andreas Dackell of the puck at the Oitawa blue line, theo cut around two defenseman and whipped a backhander inside the far post.

Bure capped his night by scoring on a penalty sbot with 6:46 left in the game. giving the Canucks a 6-3 edge.

Dackell led the Secators with two goals and an assist, while Denny Lambert also scored as Ottawa blew a 2-0

Flyers 3, Rangers 1 Trent Klatt and Eric Lindros scored two goals in less than two minutes of the third period, as

NHL ROUNDUP

Philadelphia beat the New York Rangers, spoiling John Muckler's debut in Madison Square Garden as the Rangers' coach.

Bruins 6, Penguins 2 In Bostoo, P. J. Axelsson scored a breakaway goal just 16 seconds into the game, and the Bruios added two more first period goals from Dmitri Khristich and Ray Bourque to beat Pinsburgh.

Stars 4, Coyotes 0 In Dallas, Ed Belfour got his eighth shutout of the season, and Jamie Langenbrunner and Grant Marshall scored twice each to

lead Dallas past Phoenix. Belfour had to stop only 13 shots for his 39th career sbutout, and the Stars

killed off nine power plays. Blues 5, Kings 2 Geoff Courtnall and Pierre Turgeoo scored the tying and go-ahead goals 10 seconds apart in the

second period and Steve Duchesne got his 200th NHL goal as St. Louis woo in Los Angeles.

Hackett stopped 33 shots for his sixth shutout of the seasoo and 12th of his career as Chicago won in Denver.

Five of Hacken's six shutouts have been on the road. The Avalanche, the last NHL team to be hlanked this year, hadn't been sbut out since March 23. 1997. Colorado also had its five-game winning streak soapped.

Lightning 5, Capitals 2 Tampa Bay scored five goals oo 22 shots and Mark Fitzpatrick made 35 saves as the Lightning eoded a 10-game home losing streak with a victory over Washington.

Oilers 4, Sharks 1 In Edmonton, Curtis -Joseph made 26 saves as Edmontoo took over sole possessioo of the final playoff spot in the Western Conference. Devils 4, Hurricanes 3 Doug Gilmour scored with 7.4 seconds remaining as

New Jersey extended its winning streak to six games. Keith Primeau scored twice for visiting Carolina.

Maple Leafs 4, Canadiens 0 In Toronto, Fredrik Modio scored one goal

and assisted on two others, and Felix

Potvin stopped 26 shots for his fourth

shutout of the season.

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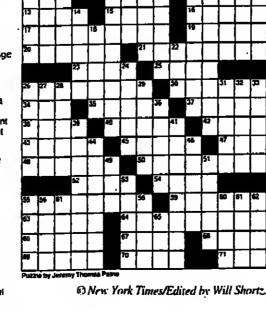
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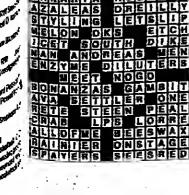
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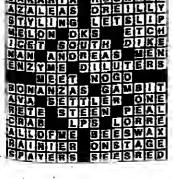
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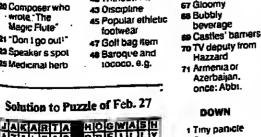
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SPORTS

WORLD ROUNDUP Italian Front-Runners Struggle

Juventus and Inter Milan Win, but Not Easily, to Stay in Title Hunt

Olazabal Triumphs

GOLF Jose Maria Olazabal came from behind to win the Dubai Desert Classic by three strokes Sunday. Olazabal shot a 4under-par final round of 68 to win the \$221,000 first prize after nearly withdrawing Friday be-

cause of flu symptoms. The Spaniard began the day three shots behind the leader, Robert Karlsson of Sweden. Karlsson faded on the back nine and finished with a 3-over-par 75 and tied for third with Ernie Els. Stephen Allan of Australia also made a late move, charging from six shots off the lead to take second place with a 4-under-par 68.

Tommy Armour III shot a 4-under-par 67 on Saturday to take the lead from Billy Mayfair heading into the final round of the Nissan Open in Valencia, California. Mayfair, who led the first two rounds, shot a 69 on the par-71, 7,006-yard course to stand a stroke behind Armour. (Reuters)

Sampras Ends Drought

TENNIS Pete Sampras, the world No. 1, beat Thomas Enquist, the No. 3 seed, 7-5, 7-6 (7-3), in the final Sunday of the Advanta Championships in Philadelphia. It was his first tourna-

ment victory this year. (AFP)

• Yevgeni Kafelnikov ttailed 3-5 in the first set but fought back to beat Cedric Pioline, 7-5, 6-4, on Sunday in the final of the London Indoor event.

 Jana Novotna beat Dominique van Roost, 6-1, 7-6 (7-2), in 65 minntes Sunday in the final of

the Austrian Open in Linz.

• Venus Williams lost a firstset tiehreaker hut fought back to beat world No. 2 Lindsay Davenport, 6-7 (5-7), 6-2, 6-3, in the IGA Classic in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Joannette Kruger of South Africa outlasted Sarah Pitkowski of France, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4, in the other semifinal. (Reuters)

South Africa in a Spin

CRICKET Mushtaq Ahmed, a spin bowler, took six wickets in Durban on Sunday as South Africa, chasing 255 runs to win, struggled to 186 runs for eight wickets at the end of the fourth day in the second test.

Earlier, Pakistan resumed its second innings on 222 for eight, and was bowled out for 226 in eight balls and nine minutes.

 Mark Ramprakash made 64 not out as England made a partial recovery on the third day of the fourth test against West Indies in Georgetown, Guyana. England started the day on 87 runs for six wickets in its first innings in reply to West Indies' 352. With Ramprakash scoring most of the runs, England finally reached 170. West Indies then lost three wickets for 39 runs in its second in-(Reuters)

Computed by Our Staff From Disputches Juventus of Turin and Inter Milan gained the victories they needed to stay

in the thick of the Serie A title race. Lazio of Rome and Udinese did not. Italy's top four clubs all had trouble

against teams struggling at the bottom of Serie A, and Udinese struggled most, losing, 1-0, at Empoli on Sunday. Lazio could manage only a scoreless draw against Atalanta of Bergamo on Sat-

Also on Saturday, Juventus edged Bari, I-0, thanks to an own-goal by Bari's Moroccan defender, Negrouz.

Inter Milan beat last-place Napoli, 2-0, after a scoreless first half. Ivan Zamorano gave Inter the lead in the 63d minute, shortly after replacing Nwank-wo Kanu. Roualdo scored the second goal from a penalty kick.

"These games are very risky - you have no choice but to win, and therefore you've got everything to lose," said Luigi Simoni, the Inter coach.

With 11 games to go, defending champion Juventus tops the standings with 51 points. Inter has 47, Lazio 45 and Udinese 42. Streaking Roma is another point

back. It beat Fiorentina, 4-1, on Sunday. Marco Delvecchio, making a rare start, scored twice. ENGLAND At the bottom of the Premi-

er league, Tottenham stopped its slide. At the top of the league, Manchester United marched on.

Tottenham beat Bolton, 1-0, with a goal by Allan Nielsen. Bolton remained in the bottom three in the Premier League along with Barnsley and Crystal Palace. At the end of the season, the last three teams will be relegated to the first division. Barnsley, Bolton and Palace were the three teams promoted to the Premier League last season, Tottenham is now five points ahead of Barnsley.

Middlesbrough and Nottingham Forest, two of the teams relegated from. the Premier League last year, now oc-

cupy the top two places in the first first half as it beat NEC Nijmegen, 3-0. divisioo. They met Sunday with Not-tingham Forest winning, 4-0. Pierre Van

Hooydonk scored twice. On Saturday, Phil Neville scored his first Premier League goal as Manchester United won, 1-0, at Chelsea.

Blackburn moved into second place with 48 points — 11 behind Manchester

SUCCER RUUNUUP

United — with a 5-3 victory over Leicester as Chris Sutton scored a hat

Stan Colleymore, a disappointment last season at Liverpool and again this season at Aston Villa, revived to score both goals as Villa beat visiting Liverpool, 2-1.

The match was the first for Liverpool.

pool's American goalkeeper, Brad Friedel, who has been on the bench since joining the club in December.

SPAIN The two Basque aspirants for the Spanish first-division title both lost ground on Sunday. Real Sociedad, from San Sebastian, lost to Merida, 3-1, and Athletic Bilbao could only draw, 2-2, with last-place Sporting Gijon. Sociedad trails the league leader,

Real Madrid, by six points. Bilbao is a further three points back. Barcelona, which faces Real Madrid in a league game next weekend, needs only to draw with Racing Santander on Monday night to regain first place.

It could have been worse for Bilbao. Gijon, which had won only one game all season, led 2-0 after 22 minutes. But Urzaiz scored twice for Athletic, the second in the last minute.

On Saturday Real Madrid gained an unimpressive 2-0 victory over Real Mallorca. Roberto Carlos and Predrag Mijatovic scored in the first 35 minutes. but after that the Spanish champion was unable to convert other chances.

NETHERLANDS Ajax Amsterdam scored three goals in nine minutes in the

on Safurday. Ajax, which plays Spartak Moscow in the UEFA CUP on Tuesday, then freewheeled to the final whistle. Ajax is 15 points ahead of PSV Eindhoven in the standings. Shota Arveladze scored two of the Ajax goals. On Sunday, his twin brother Arcil hit a hat-trick but was then sent off for arguing as NAC Breda heat Urrecht. 3.1 Breda beat Utrecht, 3-1.

The same of the sa

GERMANY Bayern Munich lost ground to Kaiserslautern in the Bundesliga after

losing, 2-0, in Munich to Cologne.
FC Cologne, in 15th place entering the match and with the league's mostporous defense, won thanks to Markus Muench, a former Bayern player. Mnench, who moved from Munich in December, converted a 50th-minute penalty and set up a goal for Khodadad Azizi, an Iranian striker, in the 63d

Kaiserslantern was held to an unexpected 0-0 draw at home by Karlsruher on Friday. Third-place Bayer Leverkusen was also held to a scoreless

Leverkusen was also held to a scoreless draw at home by Arminia Bielefeld.

SCOTLAND Marc Rieper scored the only goal as Celtic, the league leader, won, 1-0, at last-place Hibernian on Saturday. In the other half of the Glasgow-Edinburgh battle on Saturday, Hearts drew 2-2 at Rangers.

Rangers, the champions, were trailing, 2-1, when Jorg Albertz scored with a left-foot free-kick in the dying

DYNASTY CUP Japan scored two minntes from time on Sunday to bear South Korea, 2-1, in the first game at Yokohama's International Stadium, the likely venue for the 2002 World Cup

Prince Takamado opened the stadium before the start of the four-nation Dynasty Cup competition.

In the day's other game, China beat Hong Kong, 1-0, with a header by Zhang En Hua in the 58th minute. (Reuters, AP, AFP)



Dario Hubner of Brescia outjumping Davide Belotti, left, and Gustavo Mendez of Vicenza. Vicenza won the Italian Serie A match, 2-1

Duke Roars Back From 17-Point Deficit to Nip Tar Heels

By Barry Jacobs New York Times Service

DURHAM, North Carolina- The top-ranked team in the country was playing on its home court before a frenzied, full house. Undisputed possession of first place in the At-

lantic Coast Conference, and with it an excellent chance at the top seed in the East Regional of the National Collegiate Athletic Association tournament, was on the line as the regular season drew to

Yet, for more than 28 minutes on Saturday, the Duke Blue Devils played like an intimidated team and seemed headed to their second loss of the year against North Carolina, their arch-rival from just down the road. But after trailing by 17 points in the second half, their largest deficit of the game, the Blue Devils stormed back to a 77-75 victory at Cameron Indoor Stadium.

Behind by 64-47 with 11 minutes 33 seconds to go, Duke finished with a 30-11 rush, fueled by intense defensive pressure and scores on 15 of its

The go-ahead basker, a drive by Roshown

McLeod, a senior, with 1:01 to go, gave Duke its only lead of the game and raised its record to 27-2 over all and 15-1 in the ACC. McLeod finished with 23 points to pace Duke.

"It was beautiful for me to watch my team go to another level," Coach Mike Krzyzewski said after

College Basketball Roundup, Page 17.

earning his 500th career victory, some of them at Army. "I've seen it with some other teams I've had. It was just, I can't describe it. It was happening, and I didn't want to mess it up."

North Carolina (27-3, 13-3), ranked third in the nation, lost for the second time in its last three games heading into the ACC tournament — where it could see Duke again.

The Tar Heels jumped on top early, making 8 of their first 11 shots and 7 of 7 free throws. Barely eight minutes into the game, they led by 27-12. They led 42-30 at halftime, having made 53.8

percent of their shots while dominating the boards, 18-9, and holding Duke to 30.8 percent shooting. "It seemed like my teammates, we weren't

scared of Carolina, but we weren't going at them like we usually go at each other in practice," said Elton Braud, the Duke center. "That was very frustrating. It was like we were satisfied with, *O.K., it's an 8-point game, and then they'd bomb us again and we're down 16. "We were playing to be close. We weren't playing to win."

Brand, who missed two months of this season with a broken foot, was sidelined for the Blue Devils' 24-point loss to the Tar Heels at Chapel Hill on Feb. 5. On Saturday, in his third game back, the 6-foot-8-inch (2-meter), 260-pound (118-kilogram) freshman, scored 16 points in 27 minutes. His consecutive baskets down low, the second

coming with just under seven minutes remaining, allowed Duke to cut the Tar Heels' lead to four points - 68-63 - for the first time since the game's opening minutes.

"I didn't know Elton could play that long," Krzyzewski said. "He has the heart of a cham-

North Carolina, meanwhile, was wilting as Duke's man-to-man defensive pressure became stifling. Key to the turnaround was the Blue Devability to keep Antawn Jamison, the ACC's

leading scorer, from getting the ball. Duke a guards prevented the Tar Heels from making the easy entry passes they had executed previously, and a helping defense kept the 6-foot 9-inch for ward from moving freely.

Compounding the difficulty, as in a loss last

week to North Carolina State, North Carolina's guards appeared to quit looking for Jamison. He finished with 23 points, matching his average, and 13 rebounds. But over the final 101/2 minutes, the junior, who had 35 points in the teams first meeting, scored only once, on a follow shot.

Over the final five minutes, the Tar Heels made one of four shots and committed three turnovers. That allowed Duke to forge a tie at 75-75 with 2:01 to go on a shot in the lane by Chris Carrawell, and to move ahead on McLeod's decisive basket.

Even so, North Carolina had a chance to tie when Ed Cota, the sophomore guard, was fouled by Trajan Langdon with 3.8 seconds remaining.

Cota missed the first free throw, and North Carolina rebounded his intentional miss of the second. Brendon Haywood, a 7-foot freshman, got the rebound, but he, too, missed his free throws, and the Blue Devils held on.





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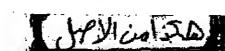
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